

# Fruits Basket

The #1 selling  
shojo manga  
in America!

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14

Shojo Manga

# Fruits Basket™

Volume 14

*Sleeping  
together.*



Natsuki Takaya

# Fruits Basket™

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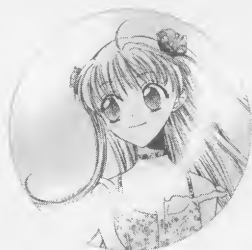
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# STORY SO FAR...

Hello, I'm Tohru Honda and I have come to know a terrible secret. After the death of my mother, I was living by myself in a tent, when the Sohma family took me in. I soon learned that the Sohma family lives with a curse! Each family member is possessed by the vengeful spirit of an animal from the Chinese Zodiac. Whenever one of them becomes weak or is hugged by a member of the opposite sex, they change into their Zodiac animal!





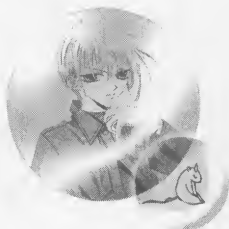


## Tohru Honda

The ever-optimistic hero of our story. An orphan, she now lives in Shigure's house, along with Yuki and Kyo, and is the only person outside of the family who knows the Sohma family's curse.

## Yuki Sohma, the Rat

Soft-spoken. Self-esteem issues. At school he's called "Prince Yuki."

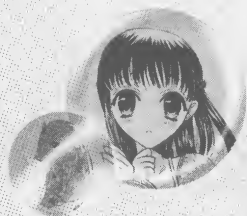


## Kyo Sohma, the Cat

The Cat who was left out of the Zodiac. Hates Yuki, leeks and miso. But mostly Yuki.

## Kagura Sohma, the Boar

Bashful, yet headstrong. Determined to marry Kyo, even if it kills him.



# Fruits Basket Characters

## Mabudachi Trio



### Shigure Sohma, the Dog

Enigmatic, mischievous and a little perverted. A popular novelist.

### Hatori Sohma, the Dragon

Family doctor to the Sohmas. Only thing he can't cure is his broken heart.



### Ayame Sohma, the Snake

Yuki's older brother. A proud and playful drama queen...er, king. Runs a costume shop.

### Saki Hanajima

"Hana-chan." Can sense people's "waves." Goth demeanor scares her classmates.

### Arisa Uotani

"Uo-chan." A tough-talking "Yankee" who looks out for her friends.



Tohru's Best Friends



## Hiro Sohma, the Ram (or sheep)

This caustic tyke is skilled at throwing verbal barbs, but he has a soft spot for Kisa.

## Momiji Sohma, the Rabbit

Half-German. He's older than he looks. His mother rejected him because of the Sohma curse. His little sister, Momo, has been kept from him most of her life.



## Hatsuharu Sohma, the Ox

The nicest of guys, except when he goes "Black." Then you'd better watch out. He was once in a relationship with Rin.

## Kisa Sohma, the Tiger

Kisa became shy and self-conscious due to constant teasing by her classmates. Yuki, who has similar insecurities, feels particularly close to Kisa.



# Fruits Basket Characters

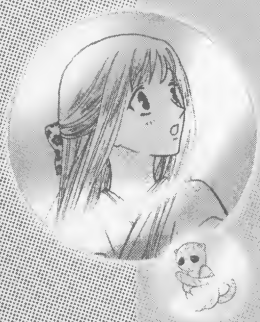
## Isuzu "Rin" Sohma, the Horse

She was once in a relationship with Hatsuharu (Haru)...and Tohru leaves her rather cold. Rin is full of pride, and she can't stand the amount of deference the other Sohma family members give Akito.



## Ritsu Sohma, the Monkey

This shy kimono-wearing member of the Sohma family is gorgeous. But this "she" is really a he!! Crossdressing calms his nerves.



## Akito Sohma

The head of the Sohma clan. A dark figure of many secrets. Treated with fear and reverence.



# Fruits Basket™

## Chapter 72





Filler  
Sketch







HARU  
UNDERSTOOD  
ME.

HE CARED FOR ME.

HE LOVED ME.

THAT'S  
EXACTLY  
WHY...

THAT'S  
WHY...





NOT YET...  
I GUESS.  
WON'T THAT  
START  
LATER?

...BELLY  
GOTTEN  
BIGGER?

HAS  
YOUR  
MOTHER'S...

SAY...?



EITHER  
WAY...I  
JUST HOPE  
IT'S BORN  
SAFELY.

I CAN'T  
WAIT!  
I WONDER  
IF IT'LL BE  
A BOY OR A  
GIRL?

Huh...?

WHY...?  
IS THE  
BABY...  
NOT  
WELL?



NAH,  
IT'S NOT  
THAT.

*It's doing fine.*



SAY...

...HIRO-  
CHAN?



\*Whad  
I tell  
ya?

**DON'T  
RUN!!!**

'specially  
not on  
stairs!!

**YOU TOO  
SATCHAN!  
WELCOME  
BACK!**

Oh!

**HIRO-  
CHAAAN!**

Huh?

Eek!

Pa  
pa

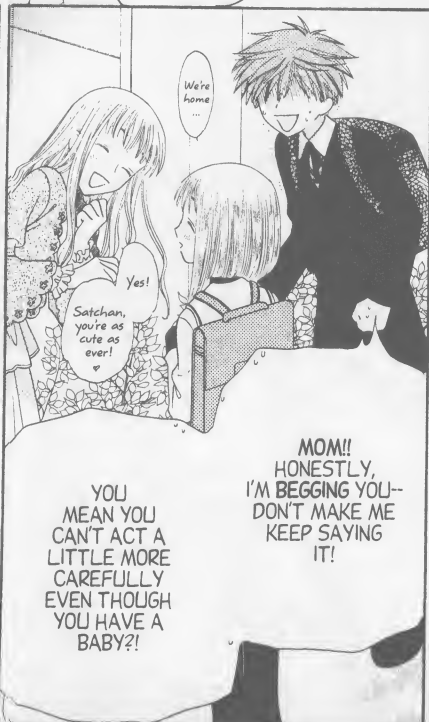


**THAT'S  
A LIE!**

I'm your  
son!  
How  
long do  
you think  
I've  
watched  
you?

IT'S  
ALL RIGHT.  
I MAY NOT  
LOOK IT, BUT  
YOUR MAMA  
IS STURDY.

Heh  
heh!



We're  
home...

Yes!

Satchan,  
you're as  
cute as  
ever!

**MOM!!  
HONESTLY,  
I'M BEGGING YOU--  
DON'T MAKE ME  
KEEP SAYING  
IT!**

YOU  
MEAN YOU  
CAN'T ACT A  
LITTLE MORE  
CAREFULLY  
EVEN THOUGH  
YOU HAVE A  
BABY?!

Anyway...

**DON'T JUMP  
AROUND SO  
MUCH, DON'T  
RUN, AND  
MAKE SURE  
TO WATCH  
WHERE  
YOU'RE  
GOING!**

Think  
of the  
next  
genera-  
tion!

YES,  
SIR.



BECAUSE  
IT DOESN'T  
MATTER  
WHICH IT  
IS.

REALLY...?  
WHY...?

UM...  
OBA-SAN\*?  
WILL THE  
BABY...

...BE A  
BOY OR A  
GIRL?

Hmm...

GOOD  
QUESTION.  
I WONDER  
...

EITHER  
WAY...

...IT WON'T  
CHANGE THE  
FACT THAT  
WE'LL LOVE  
IT.

...BUT  
WE'VE DECIDED  
TO WAIT AND  
FIND OUT WHEN  
THE BABY IS  
BORN.

THEY  
HAVE WAYS  
TO LOOK  
INSIDE AND  
FIND OUT  
...

\*Oba-san =  
"auntie"

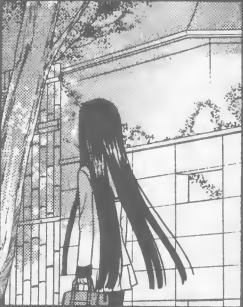
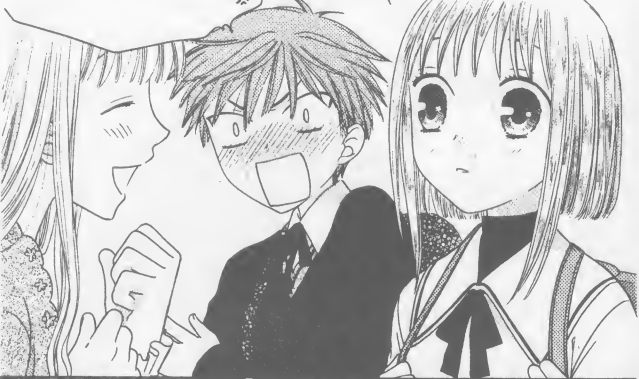
## Fruits Basket 14

*Hajimemashite  
and konnichiwa!*

Takaya here.  
Volume 14 ended  
up with Kureno-  
san on the cover  
after all. If you  
go in the actual  
order of revelation,  
it should be Akito,  
because he was  
the next Sohma  
to reveal his iden-  
tity when he said,  
"I'm God." (No,  
he didn't say  
it like that.)

But, you know...  
Since Yuki was  
on the cover of  
volume 2, it's  
always been  
members of the  
Zodiac, so I  
thought I should  
see it to the end.  
Thus, Kureno-san.  
He doesn't show  
up in this volume,  
though. He was  
told that he's no  
good (laugh). By  
Rin.

Anyway, here is  
volume 14. Please  
enjoy it!





RIN!

HEY,  
RIN. LONG  
TIME NO  
SEE.

DID  
YOU GO  
TO SCHOOL  
TODAY?



UM...

GO ON  
AHEAD!

HUH?

Hiro-  
chan?



YOU'RE  
SO PALE,  
YOU'RE LIKE  
A GHOST.

ARE  
YOU EATING  
RIGHT?

...



RIN...?


WHAT'S  
WRONG?



I  
HAVEN'T  
SEEN YOU  
IN A  
WHILE.

HOW  
HAVE  
YOU B--

turn



WHAT  
DO YOU CARE?  
ARE YOU GOING  
TO WORRY ABOUT  
ME FOREVER?

IF YOU'RE  
WORRIED  
BECAUSE YOU  
HAPPENED TO  
SEE THAT...

...FORGET  
IT.

...MOMMY  
AND DADDY.

JUST  
GO BACK  
TO YOUR  
PEACEFUL  
LITTLE  
LIFE...

...WITH  
YOUR  
LOVING...



...  
BLAMING  
ME?

...YOU...



ARE...

!



I'M  
SORRY.



...

...



THE  
WAY YOU  
TALK, RIN...

...IT'S LIKE  
IT'S WRONG  
TO BE LOVED  
BY YOUR  
PARENTS.

LIKE  
PEACE IS  
SUPERFICIAL  
...

...AND  
A BAD  
THING.



RIN...

YOU  
HAVEN'T  
FOUND IT AT  
ALL, HAVE  
YOU?

TRYING  
SO HARD...  
ON YOUR  
OWN.



...DOESN'T  
KNOW, DOES  
HE?

EVEN  
SHIGURE...

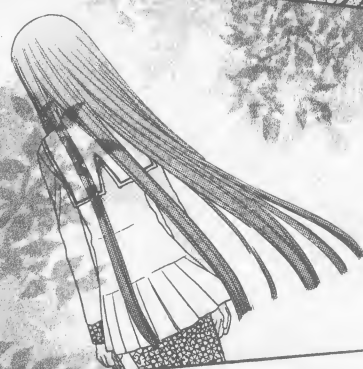




IT  
DOESN'T  
EXIST,  
AFTER  
ALL...

...DOES  
IT?

...



A  
WAY TO  
BREAK THE  
CURSE?



...ANSWER  
ME.

...





WHAT  
MAKES YOU  
THINK I  
KNOW?

...



TELL  
ME.



BECAUSE  
YOU'VE  
BEEN  
NEAR  
AKITO.

AND  
TRUSTED  
BY HIM.

YOU'RE A  
"FAVORITE"  
OF HIS.



YOU  
KNOW,  
DON'T YOU,  
GURE-NII?




SO YOU  
THINK A  
"FAVORITE"  
LIKE ME  
WOULD KNOW  
ALL HIS  
SECRETS?

...A  
FAVOR-  
ITE?

A  
FAVORITE!  
HA HA!  
THAT'S  
GRAND!



HOW  
TO BREAK  
OUR  
CURSE?



I'LL  
GIVE YOU  
MYSELF.

I HAVE  
NOTHING  
BUT ME.

YOU  
CAN USE ME  
HOWEVER YOU  
LIKE FOR THE  
REST OF MY  
LIFE.




DO YOU  
HAVE ANY...  
COLLAT-  
ERAL?

AND  
EVEN IF  
I DID...

...WHAT  
MAKES YOU  
THINK THAT I  
WOULD TELL  
YOU SOMETHING  
THAT WOULD  
CAUSE TROUBLE  
FOR AKITO-  
SAN?



ALL  
THIS TO  
HELP  
HATSU-  
HARU.



YOU'RE  
AWFULLY  
DESPERATE,  
AREN'T  
YOU?



BUT...

...OF  
HOW TO  
BREAK THE  
CURSE.

...I  
HONESTLY  
HAVE NO  
KNOWLEDGE...

I'M  
SORRY  
TO SAY...



NOW  
MIGHT BE  
A GOOD OP-  
PORTUNITY  
TO LET YOU  
KNOW...

YOU  
SHOULDN'T  
MAKE TOO  
MUCH OF  
GUYS LIKE  
ME.

I WASN'T  
PARTICULARLY  
TRUSTED BY  
AKITO, NOR AM  
I WORTH ANY  
SPECIAL  
MENTION.

I  
COULDN'T  
...

...LIVE UP  
TO YOUR EX-  
PECTATIONS,  
AFTER ALL.

YOU'RE  
LYING!

YOU'RE  
LYING. DON'T  
AVOID THE  
QUESTION!

I'M NOT  
LYING.



SOME-  
WHERE  
ELSE...

WHO  
ELSE  
WOULD  
KNOW?

WHO  
KNOWS?

MAYBE  
YOU  
SHOULD  
ASK "GOD"  
HIMSELF...  
AKITO.

IF YOU'RE  
DETERMINED  
TO FIND A  
WAY...

...YOU'LL  
HAVE TO LOOK  
SOMEWHERE  
ELSE.

GURE-  
NII...

DO  
YOU NOT  
CARE IF  
YOU STAY  
CURSED?

I  
HAVE  
NO  
POWER...

...AND  
LITTLE  
MERIT.

I'M  
WORTH-  
LESS.

THE  
WORST KIND  
OF MAN.

*I  
FEEL...*

*...LIKE...*

*...HE  
WAS  
TRYING  
TO  
EVADE  
ME.*

*AFTER  
ALL...*

*I TOLD  
YOU,  
DIDN'T I?*

*I'M THE  
WORST  
OF THE  
WORST.*

*HE  
DODGED  
MY QUES-  
TION.*

*THOSE  
WHO CARE  
SHOULD  
DO SOME-  
THING  
ABOUT IT.*

*SOME-  
ONE LIKE  
YOU, FOR  
EXAMPLE.*

*I'LL JUST  
REAP THE  
BENEFITS.*



...GET THE  
FEELING  
HE KNOWS  
SOME-  
THING.

.../  
DEFI-  
NITELY  
...

THERE  
AREN'T  
ANY HIS-  
TORICAL  
RECORDS,  
EITHER.

MAYBE  
I HAVE TO LOOK  
DEEPER? MAYBE  
THE RIGHT DOCU-  
MENTS ARE IN A  
STOREHOUSE OR  
SOMETHING.

I'VE  
BEEN  
LOOKING  
ALL THIS  
TIME...

THAT  
HE'S HIDING  
SOME-  
THING.

stagger

I  
FEEL...

...SICK.

I HAVE TO  
FIND IT.

crash



ANYTHING  
HE'D BE SO  
AFRAID OF  
HE COULDN'T  
STAND IT?

h...

h...

I WISH I  
HAD BEEN  
BORN AS  
HARU'S  
HEART.

crash

I WONDER  
IF THERE  
IS ANY-  
THING...

...THAT  
SOMEONE  
LIKE HIM...

...SOME-  
ONE WHO  
LIVES LIKE  
GURE-NII  
IS AFRAID  
OF?

MAYBE

...I'LL GO  
SEE HIM  
AGAIN.

HOW-  
EVER  
MANY  
TIMES  
I GO...

...WILL  
HE JUST  
DODGE  
MY QUES-  
TIONS?

"MAYBE YOU  
SHOULD ASK  
'GOD' HIMSELF...  
AKITO."





BUT THEN,  
I COULDN'T  
EVEN KISS  
YOU.

HARU...

BUT...

...I...

HARU...

"SHUT  
UP!"

BECAUSE THEN I  
COULD ALWAYS  
BE WITH YOU.

IF YOU  
DIED,  
HARU...

...I WOULD  
DIE WITH  
YOU.



.....

... HUH?

..... !

I FELL... ASLEEP?

... WORSE  
...

I  
FEEL  
SICK...

I  
KEEP...  
...FEEL-  
ING...

stagger

NO...  
WHAT  
TIME...

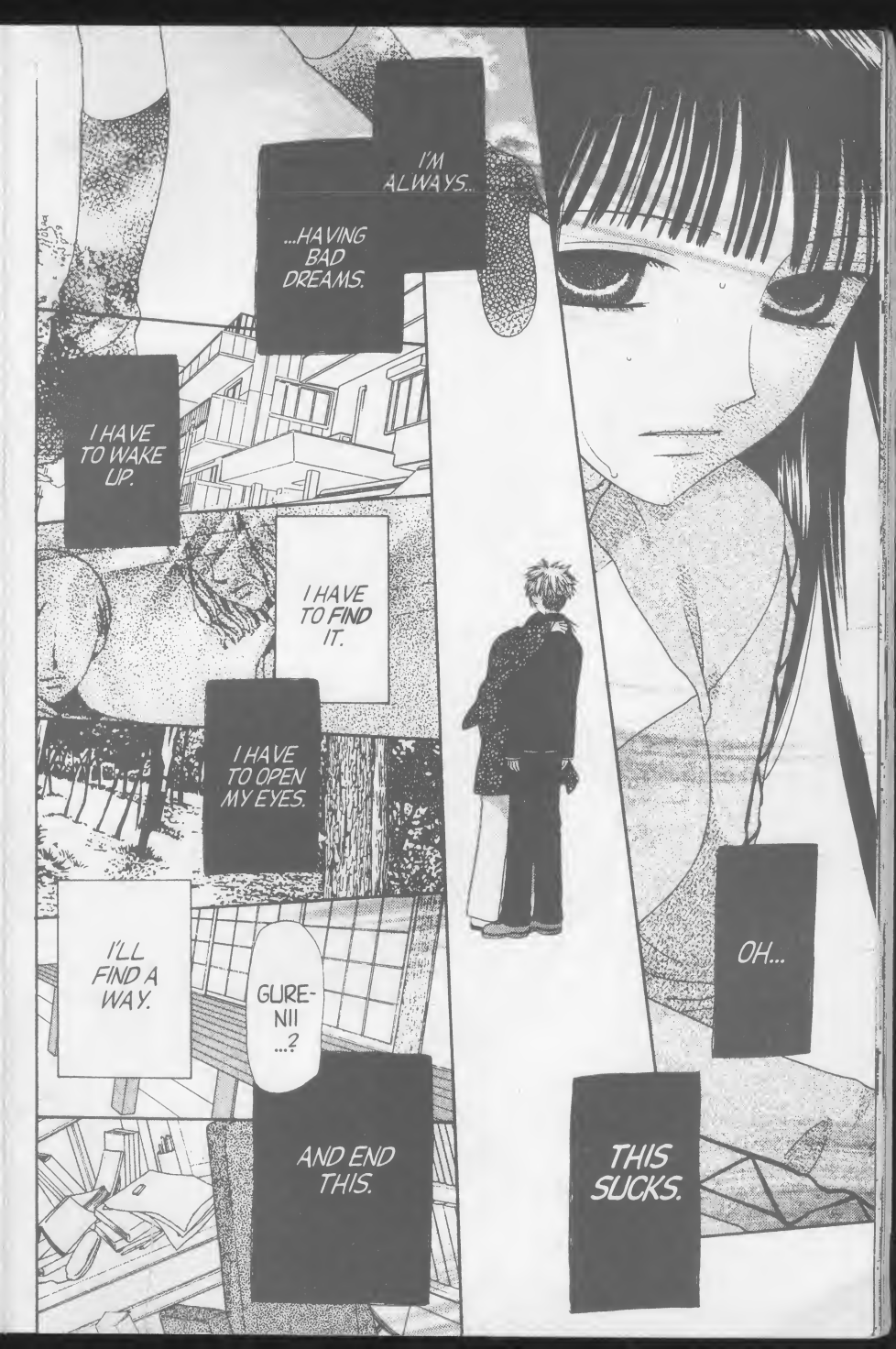
...IS IT  
NOW...?



"SHUT UP.  
WE DON'T  
WANT YOU!"

"WE NEVER  
ASKED TO  
HAVE YOU!"





I'M  
ALWAYS...

...HAVING  
BAD  
DREAMS.

I HAVE  
TO WAKE  
UP.

I HAVE  
TO FIND  
IT.

I HAVE  
TO OPEN  
MY EYES.

I'LL  
FIND A  
WAY.

GLURE-  
NII  
...?

AND END  
THIS.

OH...

THIS  
SUCKS.



I'LL  
END EVERY-  
THING.

!!  
UGH  
!!

GLURE-  
NII...

YOU'RE  
NOT  
HERE?

UH...

I CAN'T  
THROW  
UP.

I CAN'T!  
I'LL...

...GET IN  
TROUBLE  
AGAIN.



AAAA  
H!

DON'T  
GET MAD,  
DON'T GET  
MAD!

DON'T  
GET  
MAD!

DON'T  
GET  
MAD!

AH.

!--!

ISUZU-  
SA--

AH.





DON'T  
GET MAD  
AT ME,  
MAMA...

PAPA...

A HAPPY...

...FAMILY.

DON'T  
GET MAD  
AT ME!



THE OTHER  
MEMBERS OF THE  
ZODIAC SEEMED  
TO HAVE SO MUCH  
PAIN...

...BUT I'M  
DIFFERENT.

PAPA AND  
MAMA ARE  
DIFFERENT.

WE  
ALWAYS  
HAVE  
FUN.

WE'RE  
ALWAYS  
SMILING AND  
HAPPY.

YEAH!!

ME TOO,  
PAPA, MAMA!

WE'RE A  
HAPPY  
FAMILY...

...ISUZU-  
CHAN.

YOUR  
FATHER  
...

...AND  
MOTHER  
...

...BOTH  
LOVE YOU,  
ISUZU-  
CHAN.

I LOVE  
YOU!



WITH  
JUST  
THAT...

...ONE  
QUESTION  
...

ARE YOU  
REALLY  
HAVING  
FUN?

WHY DO  
PAPA AND  
MAMA ALWAYS  
SEEM TO BE  
HAVING SO  
MUCH FUN?

IT WAS  
JUST LIKE...

ISN'T  
THERE ANY-  
THING THAT  
MAKES YOU  
SAD?

...WE WERE  
INSIDE A  
PLAY.

WHY?



THE  
PLAY...

...CAME  
TO AN END.

WHO DO  
YOU THINK  
WE'RE DOING  
THIS FOR!?!

WHO DO YOU  
THINK WE TRY  
SO HARD FOR  
EVERY SINGLE  
DAY?!

GIVE ME A  
BREAK!!



*EVEN  
THOUGH*

*...THEY  
HATED  
ME...*



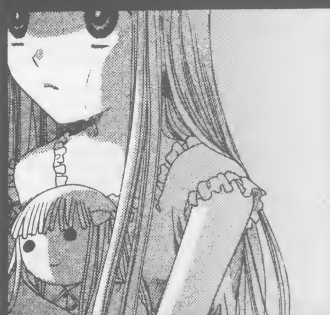
MAMA  
...

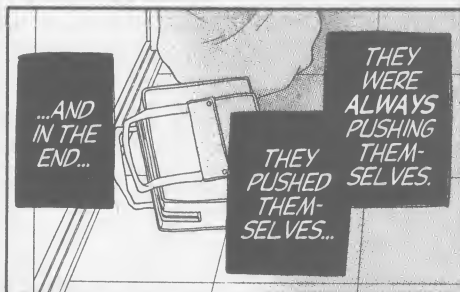
MAMA,  
PAPA...

I'M  
SORRY...



I'M  
SORRY...





...AND  
IN THE  
END...

THEY  
PUSHED  
THEM-  
SELVES...

THEY  
WERE  
ALWAYS  
PUSHING  
THEM-  
SELVES.



...THEY  
BROKE...

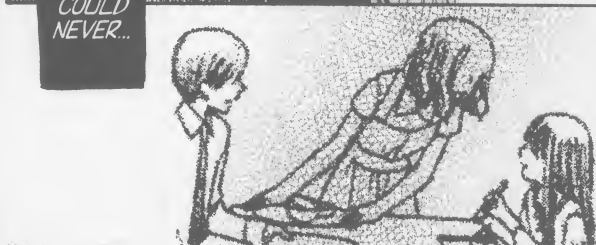
...AND  
COULD  
NEVER...



EVEN  
THOUGH  
...

...I  
WAS A  
BURDEN  
...

...THEY  
PUSHED  
THEM-  
SELVES.



...GO  
BACK.



THEY  
SAID...

...THEY  
DIDN'T  
REALLY  
WANT ME.



HARU...

I'M SCARED.

I'M SO  
SCARED...

...I CAN'T  
TAKE IT!

...I'M SCARED.

THAT  
FEELING

...OF  
PRAYING  
WITH  
ALL MY  
HEART.

I'LL  
NEVER  
FORGET  
THAT  
FEELING,  
EVERY  
TIME I  
ENTERED  
MY  
HOUSE...

## Chapter 79



UNTIL  
THE DAY,  
SOMEDAY...

LIKE A  
"THING"  
WITHOUT  
FEELINGS.

OF WON-  
DERING  
IF THEY  
WERE IN  
A GOOD  
MOOD...

...OR IF  
THEY  
STILL  
HATED  
ME.

...WHEN  
THEY'LL  
...

I TOLD  
MYSELF I'D  
WAIT UNTIL  
IT PASSES.

LIKE A  
STONE.

...  
FORGIVE  
ME.



...TO THE  
WAY THINGS  
WERE, CAN'T  
WE?



YOU  
WILL...

ド  
#  
Collapse...

...FOR-  
GIVE ME,  
WON'T  
YOU?

WE  
CAN GO  
BACK  
...

stagger



HM...

THAT'S  
GOOD.



YOU'RE  
CONSCIOUS.



IT'S  
HARU.

I FEEL  
LIKE...

...I HAVEN'T  
SEEN HIS  
FACE IN  
A LONG  
TIME.

SHIHAN.

SHIHAN  
...

HARU  
...?

WAIT  
RIGHT  
HERE.

HIS WHITE  
SOFT HAIR--

BEFORE  
THIS HAP-  
PENED...

WHEN I  
TOLD HIM I  
LIKED IT...

...THERE  
WERE A  
FEW TIMES  
WE PLAYED  
TOGETHER.

...HIS BLANK  
EXPRESSION  
WAS SO  
CUTE.

ALTHOUGH  
SHE LOOKS  
FINE ON THE  
OUTSIDE...

IF ONLY THE  
PEOPLE AROUND  
HER HAD NOTICED  
IT SOONER. SURELY  
SHE'S BEEN SHOW-  
ING SYMPTOMS  
FOR SOME TIME  
NOW.

...INSIDE,  
HER  
BODY'S  
A MESS.



HELLO...  
ISUZU.

HOW ARE  
YOU FEEL-  
ING?

FOR NOW,  
I THINK IT'S  
BEST THAT  
SHE STAY  
AT THE  
HOSPITAL.

IN THE  
CASE THAT  
WE DON'T  
SEE ANY  
IMPROVE-  
MENT—

I WILL  
TALK IT OVER  
WITH HER  
PARENTS.

WE'RE  
IN THE  
HOSPITAL.



...I HAVE  
TO GO  
HOME.

I  
HAVE  
TO...

...GO  
BACK  
HOME!



...WHO  
ARE  
YOU?

DO YOU  
REMEMBER?  
YOU FAINTED  
AND HATSU-  
HARU FOUND  
YOU.

KAZUMA  
SOHMA. YOU  
MIGHT KNOW ME  
BETTER AS KYO  
SOHMA'S FOSTER  
FATHER.



YOU  
MUST  
REST.

ISUZU...



I HAVE  
ALREADY  
CONTACTED  
YOUR  
PARENTS.

I MUST  
TALK TO THEM  
ABOUT WHAT'S  
HAPPENED.



IT'S  
BECAUSE  
I'M BAD...



IT'S  
MY  
FAULT!



I HAVE  
TO GO  
HOME....!!

...  
BEFORE...



STOP  
IT!

LEAVE  
US  
ALONE!!



WHY  
...



STOP IT!  
WHY!?!



IT'S FINE.  
GO SOME-  
WHERE...



...WHERE  
I WON'T  
SEE YOU  
ANYMORE.

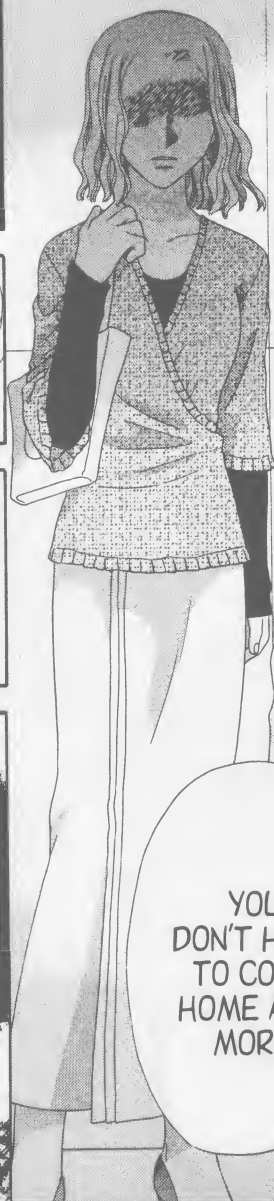


I JUST  
DON'T  
KNOW ANY-  
MORE.

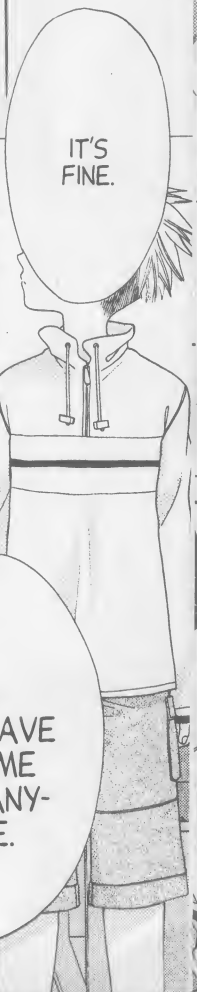
BE-  
CAUSE  
...



I DON'T  
KNOW HOW  
TO LOVE YOU  
ANYMORE.



...THINGS  
ARE  
BEYOND  
REPAIR.



IT'S  
FINE.

YOU  
DON'T HAVE  
TO COME  
HOME ANY-  
MORE.

HOW  
CAN SHE SAY  
THINGS LIKE  
THAT...

...SO  
EASILY?

"WE  
DON'T  
NEED  
YOU."

MS.  
SOHMA  
...

LET'S  
TALK  
OVER  
HERE...

"IT'S  
FINE"

"YOU  
DON'T  
HAVE TO  
COME  
HOME."

IF WE  
HEAR  
THAT...

...FROM  
OUR PARENTS,  
WHAT ARE WE  
SUPPOSED  
TO DO?

WHY...?

"YOU  
DON'T  
HAVE TO  
COME  
HOME."





HAVING  
PEOPLE  
TAKE THEIR  
ANGER OUT  
ON US, BEING  
LAUGHED  
AT...

...NOT BEING  
TAKEN  
SERIOUSLY.

WE  
KIDS GET  
HURT JUST  
LIKE YOU  
DO!

HARU  
...

WHY  
CAN'T YOU  
UNDERSTAND  
SOMETHING  
SO SIMPLE?!

RIN  
THINKS THAT  
SHE'S BEEN  
"BAD."

BUT  
WHO DO  
YOU THINK  
...

HARU  
...

APOLO-  
GIZE!

APOLO-  
GIZE...!

APOLOGIZE  
TO RIN!!

...IS THE ONE  
WHO'S BEING  
BAD HERE!?!  
...



HARU  
...

HARU  
...



HEY!!

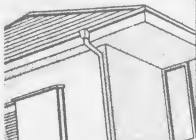
I TOLD  
YOU TO  
APOLO-  
GIZE!!



...YOU...

THANK  
...

...



IT WAS  
DECIDED  
THAT I  
WOULD STAY  
AT KAGURA'S  
HOUSE.



BUT GOING  
INTO A HOME  
THAT WASN'T  
COMPLETELY  
BROKEN...



...ONLY  
WRENCHED  
AT MY  
HEART.



I COULDN'T  
SIT AT  
MEALS WITH  
THEM.



BEING  
IN THE  
HOUSE WAS  
AGONY; BEING  
OUTSIDE WAS  
AGONY.

WHEN I  
CLOSED  
MYSELF IN  
MY ROOM...

JUST  
LIKE  
THAT...

...MY  
HOME...

...WAS  
GONE.



MY  
PARENTS  
...

...NEVER  
CAME TO SEE  
ME AT THE  
HOSPITAL  
AFTER THAT.

AND  
LIKEWISE, I  
NEVER WENT  
BACK TO MY  
PARENTS  
AGAIN.



...THE ANGER,  
HATRED, AND  
SADNESS I  
HAD TOWARD  
MY PARENTS AND  
MYSELF...



...GO  
FOR A  
WALK?

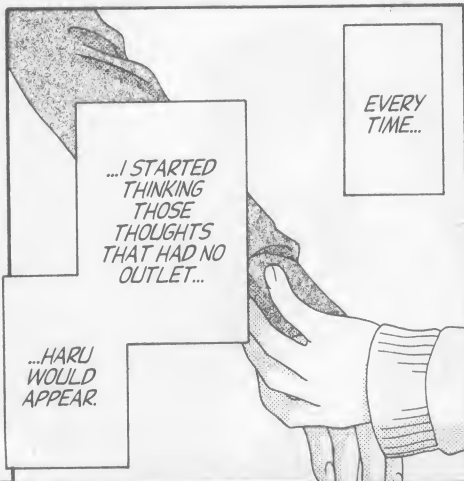
WANT  
TO...

SHOULD  
I NEVER  
HAVE  
BEEN  
BORN?



WHAT  
WAS  
BAD?

WHERE  
DID IT GO  
WRONG?



EVERY  
TIME...

...I STARTED  
THINKING  
THOSE  
THOUGHTS  
THAT HAD NO  
OUTLET...

...HARU  
WOULD  
APPEAR.

nok  
nok

WERE  
THINGS...

...BEYOND  
REPAIR  
FROM THE  
BEGINNING?



Is it  
hot?  
It's  
hot.

WE  
ATE TO-  
GETHER.



HE  
WOULD  
TAKE ME  
OUTSIDE...

...AND  
TALK  
ABOUT  
RANDOM  
THINGS.

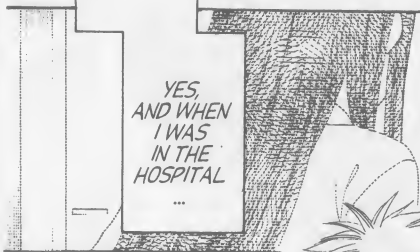


I'LL  
TRY  
SOME...

WANT  
TO TRY  
SOME  
ODEN\*?



\*Oden = Japanese Stew



YES,  
AND WHEN  
I WAS  
IN THE  
HOSPITAL  
...



...HARU  
CAME TO  
SEE ME  
ALL THE  
TIME.

WHEN  
I WAS WITH  
HARU, I DIDN'T  
FEEL ANY  
AGONY.



I DIDN'T  
HATE ANY  
OF THAT.



YOU HAVE  
INTEREST-  
ING LOGIC,  
HARU.

HARU  
WAS A  
STRANGE  
BOY.

MAYBE.

I FELT  
LIKE I MIGHT  
FALL IN LOVE  
WITH HIM.

A  
KIND  
BOY.



HOW IS  
MIDDLE  
SCHOOL?  
IS IT  
FUN?

IT'S  
KIND OF...  
ANNOY-  
ING.  
APPAR-  
ENTLY  
THEY DON'T  
LIKE MY  
HAIR OR MY  
ATTITUDE.



SO I  
THINK  
IN THIS  
CASE...

...I HAVE  
NO CHOICE  
BUT TO GET  
MY EARS  
PIERCED.

EEHH?



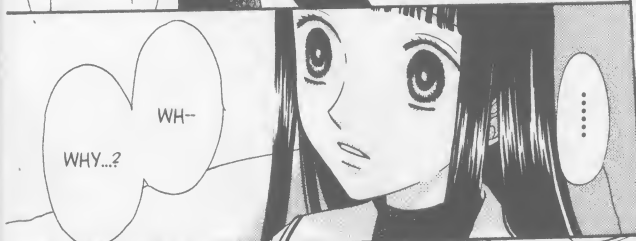
HEH HEH...  
WHAT  
ARE YOU  
TALKING  
ABOUT?



...WOULD BE  
TWISTED.

RIN.

WILL  
YOU KISS  
ME?



WHY...?

WH--

....



BECAUSE  
I LIKE  
YOU.



I HAVE  
FALLEN IN  
LOVE WITH  
HIM.

NO.

I  
CAN'T.

A LOVE  
FROM...

...SOMEONE  
LIKE  
ME...



WE

...

AKITO  
WILL...

...GET  
MAD...

WE  
CAN'T  
...!

A--

...LIKE  
YOU.

OR...  
WOULD  
YOU PREFER  
ANOTHER  
MAN?

BUT...

OF...

HARU,  
I...

OF  
COURSE  
NOT! I--

...IF YOU  
ENDED UP WITH  
ANOTHER GUY  
JUST BECAUSE  
OF THAT...

...I WOULDN'T  
BE ABLE TO  
BEAR IT.



...SEEMED  
LIKE IT  
WOULD  
SOMEDAY  
CRUSH  
HARU.

LEANING  
ON YOU...

RELYING  
ON YOU...

I  
LIKE YOU,  
HARU.

WANTING  
YOU, HARU,  
WANTING  
EVERYTHING  
ABOUT YOU.

I'M  
NO GOOD  
WITHOUT  
YOU, HARU.

IF  
HARU...

...STARTED  
TO HATE  
ME...

MY DESIRE  
INCREASES  
AND  
INCREASES.

...AND WENT  
AWAY...

WHEN  
YOU'RE GONE,  
HARU, I'M SO  
UNEASY. I  
CAN'T KEEP  
MYSELF  
TOGETHER.

...AND  
WAS  
GONE...

A "LOVE"  
LIKE THAT

IT  
HAS TO  
BE YOU,  
HARU.



...WANT  
YOU,  
RIN.

SO  
I...



DO YOU  
THINK I'M  
PITYING  
YOU?

NO...

NO, I  
DON'T.

I  
LIKE  
YOU.



DO  
YOU NOT  
WANT TO BE  
WITH ME?

...NOT  
WANT ME,  
RIN?

DO  
YOU...



...!

.....

WHY  
CAN'T WE  
BE MORE  
NORMAL?

EVEN  
THOUGH I  
THINK IT'S  
WRONG...

...I DON'T  
WANT TO  
LET GO.

HOLD-  
ING  
HANDS  
...

...  
HAVING  
HIS  
BODY  
ON  
MINE...

...I  
STARTED  
TO WANT  
HIM.

I  
STARTED  
TO GET  
SCARED.

MY  
TWISTED...

...SELF.

REASON  
HAS NO  
EFFECT.

I LOVE  
HIM TOO  
MUCH.





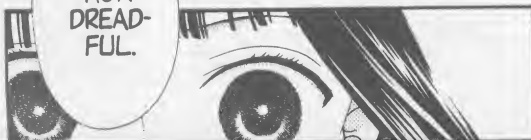
WHEN I  
THOUGHT,  
"WHAT  
IF AKITO  
FINDS  
OUT?"...

...I GOT  
MORE  
AND  
MORE...



...TERRIFIED.

...IS IT  
TRUE?



OR...

...DID  
SOME-  
ONE...?

HOW...?

THIS  
IS WHY  
I HATE  
WOMEN.

DID  
HE SEE  
SOME-  
THING?

HOW  
DID HE  
FIND  
OUT?!

THEY'RE  
CUNNING.

EVEN  
LONG, BLACK  
TRAILING  
HAIR...

I SHRINK  
BACK.

I CAN'T  
HELP  
IT.


I'M  
SCARED  
OF AKITO.

HIS  
SPEECH,  
HIS  
ACTIONS...  
EVERY-  
THING.

...MAKES  
ME  
SICK.

SO...?

I  
CAN'T  
DISOBEY.



WHICH  
OF YOU WILL  
INCUR MY  
DISPLEASURE?

WHICH  
OF YOU  
INSTIGATED  
IT?

HATSU-  
HARU?

YOU?



HATORI'S  
LEFT EYE-  
THAT WAS...  
UNFORTUNATE.

YOU SEE,  
WHEN I GET  
MAD, I CAN'T  
REALLY  
SEE WHAT'S  
AROUND ME.

EH...?



I  
STARTED IT,  
OBVIOUSLY!

ME...

IT  
WAS  
ME!





WOMEN  
REALLY ARE  
DISGUSTING.




YOU'RE...  
SHAMELESS.

WHY  
DO YOU  
LAY YOUR  
HANDS ON MY  
THINGS?

YOU  
THINK  
YOU'VE  
BEATEN  
ME?

OR  
MAYBE...



AH HA HA!  
OH, I SEE!

I  
SEE YOU,  
NOW...!

HEH HEH...  
YOU'RE  
PATHETIC.  
AH  
HA  
HA  
HA!




...ARE  
YOU  
LISTEN-  
ING?




OH...

AH?



YOU  
NEED TO KNOW  
OF HOW LITTLE  
VALUE YOU ARE.  
YOU'RE JUST  
HERE TO MAKE  
THE NUMBERS  
MATCH UP.

DON'T  
YOU EVER  
FORGET  
THAT!



YOU... YOU'RE  
ROTTEN TO  
THE CORE.

YOU'RE  
COMPLETELY  
HOPELESS. NOT  
EVEN BEING WITH  
HATSUHARU CAN  
SAVE YOU.

YOUR  
DARKNESS  
WILL EAT  
THROUGH  
HATSUHARU.



YOU...

...ARE NOT  
NEEDED.



"WE  
DON'T  
NEED  
YOU."





I'M  
HAPPY...

WHAT...

...A  
HAPPY  
THING.

THERE  
WAS  
SOME-  
ONE...

...WHO  
WANTED  
ME...

...EVEN  
THOUGH  
I HAD  
BEEN  
TOLD...

...THAT  
I WAS  
UNWANTED.



BUT  
HARU...

...DID...



...WANT  
ME.



FROM  
EVERY-  
THING  
THAT  
BINDS  
YOU.

I'LL  
RELEASE  
YOU...

...FROM  
ME.

FROM  
AKITO.

THAT'S  
ENOUGH  
FOR ME.

HARU...

THIS  
TIME...

...WAS  
HAPPY.

THANK  
YOU.

I'M  
HAPPY.

...YOU  
HAVE  
TO BE  
HAPPY,  
HARU.

BUT...

...THAT'S  
ENOUGH.



SEE,  
IT'S IN...

...A  
BIGGER  
WORLD.

I WANT  
TO RELEASE  
YOU.

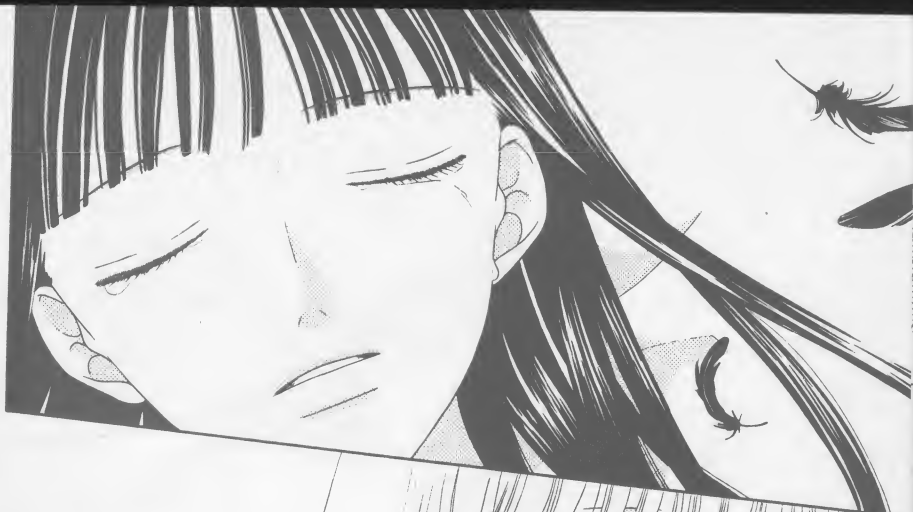
I'LL  
LOOK  
FOR IT.

I'LL  
FIND  
IT.

...TRUE  
HAPPINESS...

...HARU,  
YOUR...

BECAUSE  
IT'S OKAY...



...FOR IT  
TO END  
WITH  
NOTHING  
...



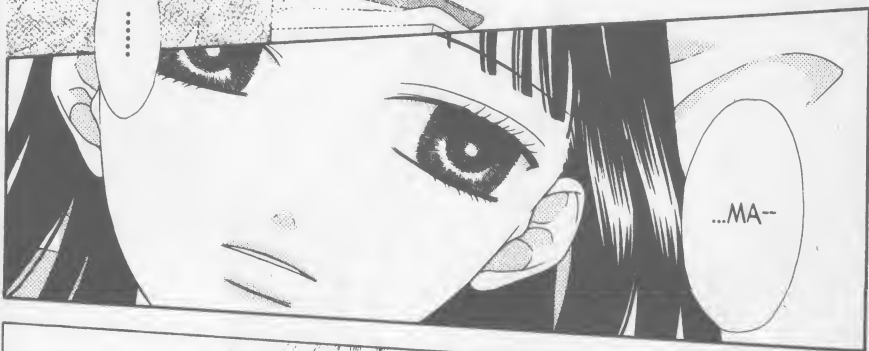
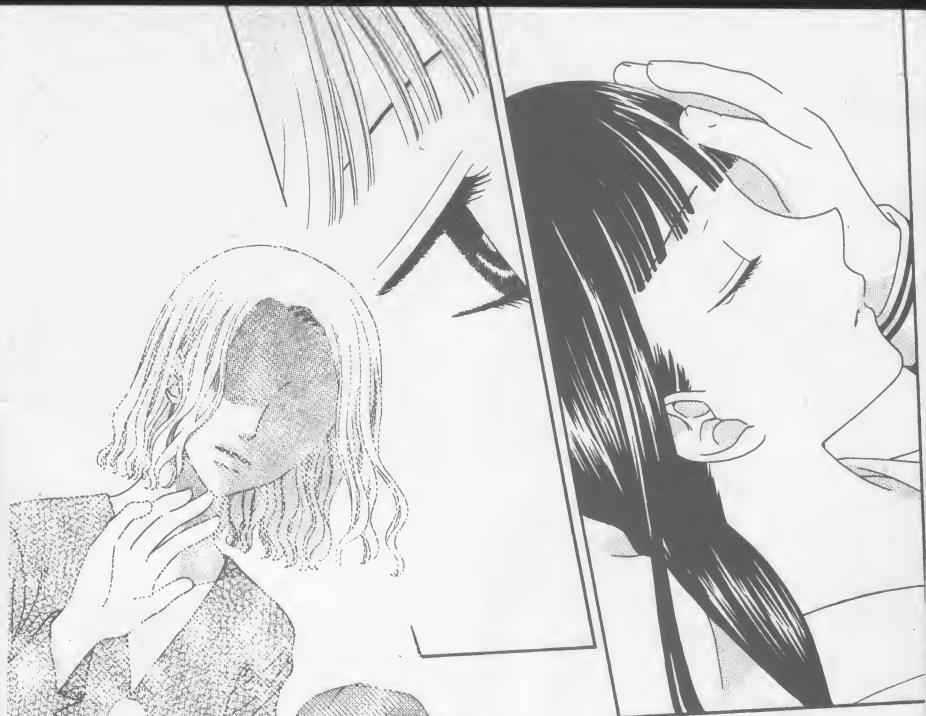
...LEFT  
IN MY  
HANDS.







## Chapter 80



ISUZU...  
SAN?

.....  
?!

PLEASE  
WAIT,  
PLEASE...

PLEASE  
KEEP  
LYING  
DOWN!

ARE  
YOU...  
AWAKE?

WHY...

I'M GOING  
TO LET  
HATORI-SAN  
KNOW!

HOW  
ARE YOU  
FEELING  
...?

...THIS  
GIRL?

He's  
in the  
living  
room.



TOHRU-  
KUN  
FOUND  
YOU...

...WHEN YOU  
THREW UP  
AND FAINTED  
IN THE LIVING  
ROOM.

I DON'T  
WANT TO  
GET NEAR  
THIS GIRL.

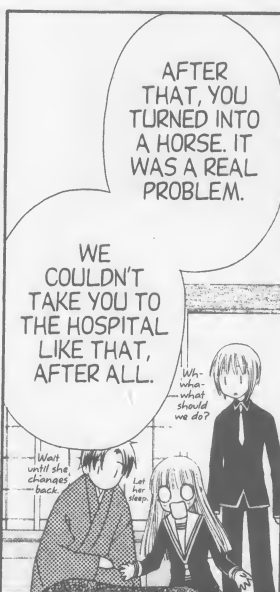


I DON'T  
LIKE  
THIS.



SO FOR THE  
TIME BEING,  
WE WAITED  
FOR YOU  
TO REGAIN  
CONSCIOUS-  
NESS.

...DO YOU  
REMEMBER?



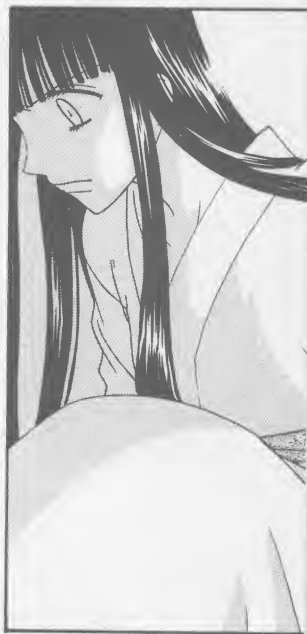
AFTER  
THAT, YOU  
TURNED INTO  
A HORSE. IT  
WAS A REAL  
PROBLEM.

WE  
COULDN'T  
TAKE YOU TO  
THE HOSPITAL  
LIKE THAT,  
AFTER ALL.

Wait  
until she  
changes  
back.

Let her  
sleep.

Wh-  
what  
should  
we do?



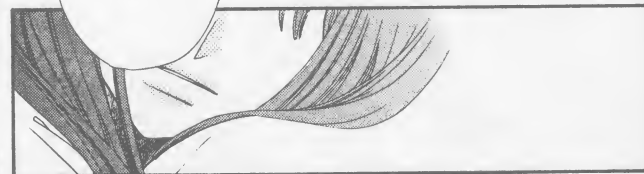
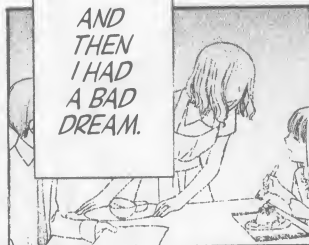
### Now then.

Now that all the members of the Zodiac have been revealed, I can finally tell you that all of their names were taken from names of the months. I think there are some people who have already realized this, though.

The reason I kept quiet about it until now is that if I said it, it would be a huge spoiler in that you would be able to figure out which Zodiac each character was by their name. (Figure that out before you name them!)

There's no real meaning behind my naming them after the months. Not really. I was just playing with sounds.

(Currently, in Japan, the months are known as "First month," "Second month," etc. But they all have many, many other names, some of which will be listed later. They're based on the lunar calendar, so they don't necessarily match up with the months of the Western calendar. In addition to there being "the month of the Rat," "the month of the Ox," etc., the hours of the day were designated in the same way. -ed.)







RIN.

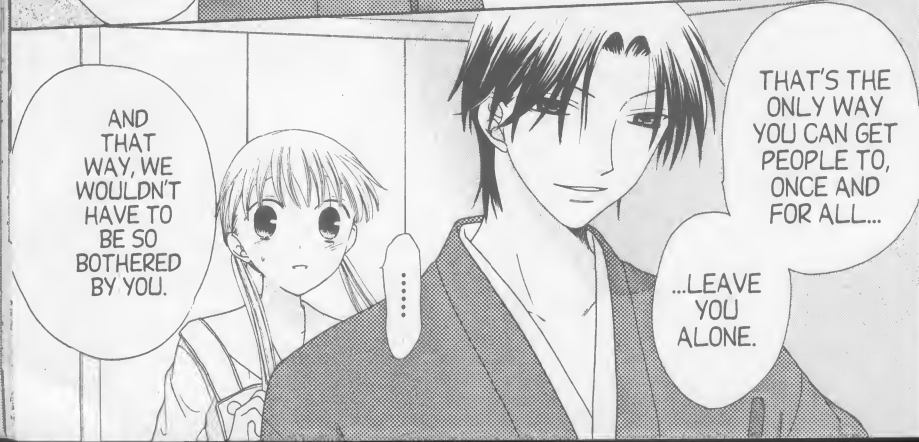
YOU...!

YOU  
MUSTN'T,  
ISUZU-SAN!

IT'S  
DANGEROUS  
...

WHY  
DON'T YOU AT  
LEAST LET  
THEM GET  
YOU TO THE  
POINT...

...WHERE  
YOU CAN  
TAKE CARE  
OF YOUR OWN  
BODY?



AND  
THAT  
WAY, WE  
WOULDN'T  
HAVE TO  
BE SO  
BOtherED  
BY YOU.

THAT'S THE  
ONLY WAY  
YOU CAN GET  
PEOPLE TO,  
ONCE AND  
FOR ALL...

...LEAVE  
YOU  
ALONE.





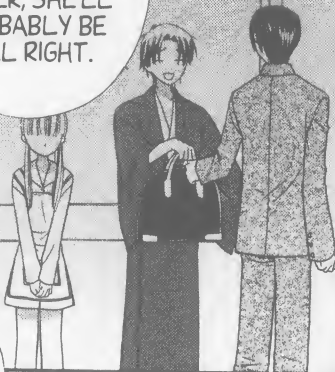
I'LL  
COME  
AGAIN  
...

...TO-  
MOR-  
ROW.

IF WE  
MAKE A BIG  
DEAL OF IT,  
SHE MIGHT  
REALLY  
JUMP.

YOU'RE  
RIGHT. FOR  
NOW, IT MIGHT  
ACTUALLY BE  
WORSE TO FORCE  
HER TO THE  
HOSPITAL.

BUT  
AS LONG AS  
SHE'S GOT THIS  
MUCH SPUNK LEFT  
IN HER, SHE'LL  
PROBABLY BE  
ALL RIGHT.



ISUZU-  
SAN...



AT  
THIS  
RATE...

...THE  
END  
WILL  
NEVER  
COME.

...WITH-  
OUT  
EVEN  
FINDING  
THE  
WAY TO  
BREAK  
THE  
CURSE.

WHAT  
...

...AM I  
DOING?

FADING...  
FALLING  
APART...





WON'T HE GET MAD AT YOU FOR LEAVING WITHOUT PERMISSION?

WE CALLED YOU OUT HERE... BUT IS AKITO-SAN ALL RIGHT WITH THAT?

...I STILL HAVE A FEW EXCUSES LEFT.




AH... YES! TAKE CARE...!

...ANYWAY, THERE'S NOTHING MORE I CAN DO TODAY.

YES...

I'LL WALK YOU OUT.



SHE CAME TO SEE YOU, DIDN'T SHE? ISUZU, I MEAN.

YOU...

IT'S HARD KEEPING HIM IN A GOOD MOOD, ISN'T IT?



...BY HER-SELF.

...LOOKING FOR A WAY TO UNDO OUR CURSE...

FOR SOME REASON, THAT GIRL IS DESPERATELY

...THAT'S RIGHT.



MOST  
LIKELY.

SHE'S  
SERIOUS?

AND SHE  
SUSPECTS  
THAT I KNOW  
HOW TO  
DO IT.

SO SHE  
COMES  
OVER FROM  
TIME TO  
TIME.



YES,  
WELL  
...

YOU  
SAY IT'S  
ABSURD  
...

...BUT ...



...IS IT  
REALLY?



THAT'S...

...ABSURD.



WHAT  
ARE YOU  
DOING?



HATORI  
...

CAN'T  
YOU HEAR  
IT?



HEAR  
WHAT?



NO, NO.  
RIN'S JUST  
STAYING HERE  
FOR A BIT.

WHY IS  
HATORI  
HERE? IS  
SOMEONE  
SICK?

OH,  
KYO-KUN!

WELCOME  
HOME!

RIN...

AREN'T  
YOU GOING  
TO EAT?

HE TOLD  
ME HE'D  
TAKE CARE  
OF IT ON  
HIS OWN.

BUT...

...I THINK  
YOU SHOULD  
KNOW THIS--

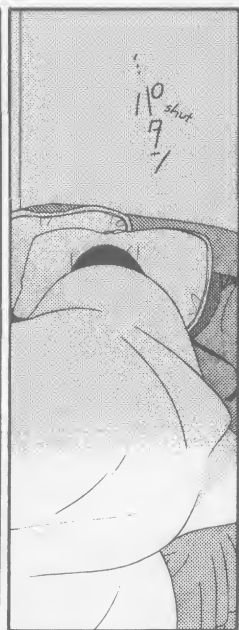
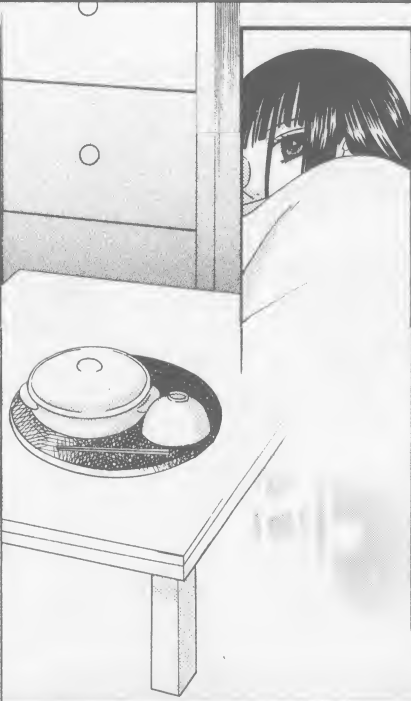
IF YOU...  
CALL  
HARU...

...I WON'T  
FORGIVE  
YOU.

Rin?  
How  
come  
?

"CAN'T  
YOU HEAR  
IT?"

"THE SOUND OF  
BREAKING."





SO  
KIND.

TOO  
KIND.

KIND  
PEOPLE--

I FEEL  
SORRY  
FOR  
THEM.

"SHE'S  
KIND."

YOU  
ARE TOO,  
HARU!

YOU'RE  
KIND.

"...IT'S  
BECAUSE  
OF HER..."

"...THAT YUKI  
AND KYO'S  
AURAS HAVE  
SOFTENED."

"IS SHE  
REALLY  
THAT  
SPECIAL?"

NO.

"SHE'S A  
NORMAL  
GIRL..."

"IF YOU  
MEET HER,  
YOU MIGHT  
UNDERSTAND  
TOO, RIN."

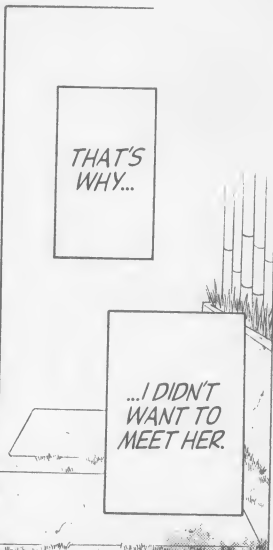


...THAT  
GIRL WAS  
THERE.



BUT  
AFTER  
I BROKE  
UP WITH  
HARU...

...THE  
FIRST TIME  
I WENT TO  
GURE-NII'S  
HOUSE...



THAT'S  
WHY...

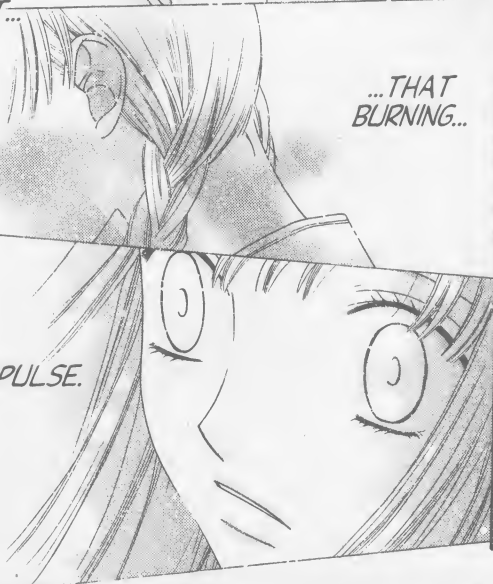
...I DIDN'T  
WANT TO  
MEET HER.

AND I  
FELT...



...THAT  
BURNING...

...IMPULSE.



THAT  
GIRL.



HOW  
ARE YOU  
FEELING?



I'M  
COMING  
IN.

HELLO!

*clatch*



STOP  
IT.



AH,  
ALSO, I  
BROUGHT  
YOU SOME  
WATER!



UM...  
I'LL BE  
SLEEPING  
DOWN-  
STAIRS...

...SO IF  
YOU NEED  
ANYTHING, DON'T  
HESITATE TO  
CALL ME.



YOU'RE  
TRYING TO  
BREAK THE  
CURSE.

STOP  
IT.



DON'T  
BOTHER.

WHAT  
ARE YOU  
TRYING TO  
DO?

DO  
YOU LOOK  
DOWN ON  
US?

WE  
NEVER ASKED  
FOR YOUR  
SYMPATHY.

DO YOU  
PITY OUR  
WRETCHED  
STATE?

YOU  
WENT  
...

...TO ASK  
KAZUMA,  
DIDN'T  
YOU?



IT'S  
JUST  
...

THAT'S  
...

...NOT  
IT.



I HATE  
FOR KIND  
PEOPLE TO  
SUFFER.

...THIS  
IS THE  
ONLY  
WAY I  
CAN SAY  
IT.



COULD...  
IT BE...

TO SEE  
THEM GET  
HURT.

...IN  
THEIR KIND  
WORLD!!

KIND  
PEOPLE  
SHOULD  
JUST GO ON  
LIVING...



"ARE  
YOU..."

...BLAMING  
ME?"



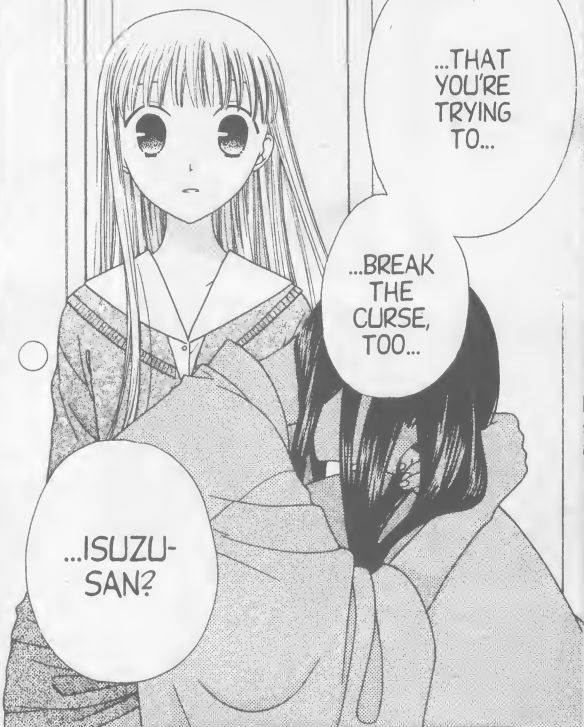


THAT'S...

...NONE OF  
YOUR BUSI-  
NESS!



ISUZU-  
SAN...!



...THAT  
YOU'RE  
TRYING  
TO...

...BREAK  
THE  
CURSE,  
TOO...

...ISUZU-  
SAN?



STAY  
OUT OF IT.  
STOP INTER-  
RUPTING!

NO!!

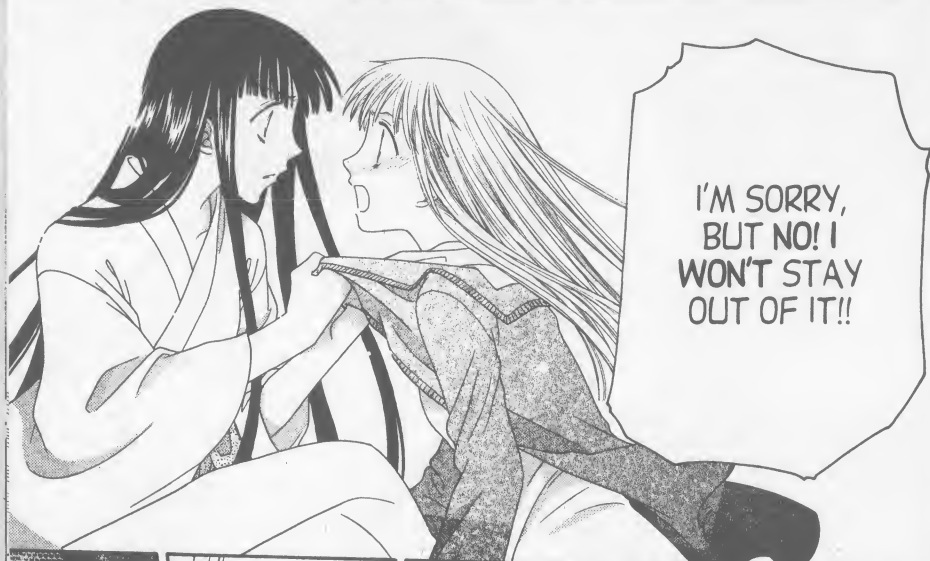
ISUZU-  
SA--



SHUT  
UP!

ISUZU-SAN,  
DO YOU  
KNOW A WAY  
TO UNDO THE  
CURSE?!

SHUT UP!  
I TOLD YOU  
WE DON'T  
NEED YOUR  
HELP!



I'M SORRY,  
BUT NO! I  
WON'T STAY  
OUT OF IT!!



THAT'S  
WHY.

SHUT  
UP,  
SHUT  
UP!

SHUT  
UP!  
THERE  
ISN'T  
ONE!!

JUST AS  
YOU HAVE  
THINGS YOU  
CAN'T GIVE  
UP, ISUZU-  
SAN...

...SO  
DO I.

THERE  
ARE THINGS...  
I CAN'T GIVE  
UP.

SHUT  
UP...!

STOP  
...

STOP  
SCREWING  
AROUND!

NO...!





NO ONE  
KNOWS  
HOW.

AT  
THIS  
RATE...!

...I'LL  
NEVER BE  
ABLE TO  
RELEASE  
HIM.

THERE  
ISN'T  
ONE ANY-  
WHERE!

I...

I DON'T  
KNOW...

THERE  
ISN'T A  
WAY!

...WHAT  
TO DO  
ANYMORE.



THE  
KIND OF  
PERSON  
WHO  
MAKES  
ME FEEL  
THIS  
WAY.

...IS THAT  
KIND OF  
PERSON.

THIS  
GIRL...

ISUZU-  
SAN...!



I HATE IT!  
THAT'S  
WHY...

...I DIDN'T  
WANT TO  
GET NEAR  
HER.

BACK  
THEN,  
TOO.



I WANTED  
TO RUN TO  
HER...

I WANT  
TO SHARE  
WITH HER  
ALL OF THE  
WEAKNESS  
IN MY OVERLY  
WEAK SELF.

...AND  
FALL ON  
HER LAP.

TO POUR  
OUT MY  
HEART TO  
HER...

AND I  
FEEL...

I WANTED...

...TO CRY.

...LIKE SHE  
WOULD  
LET ME.

...LIKE A  
CHILD WHO  
GOES BACK,  
CRYING, TO HER  
MOTHER.



...AND  
TAKEN  
ADVANTAGE  
OF.

KIND  
PEOPLE  
ARE  
CLINGING  
TO.

THEY'RE  
SOLIGHT  
OUT...

I FEEL  
SORRY  
FOR HER.

LIKE  
SHE WOULD  
ACCEPT ME.



BY  
PEOPLE  
LIKE ME.



THAT'S  
WHY I  
WON'T  
GET THEM  
INVOLVED.

I CAN  
DO IT ON  
MY OWN.



I WILL  
KEEP  
RUNNING  
ON MY  
OWN.



SUCH A  
PERSON  
...

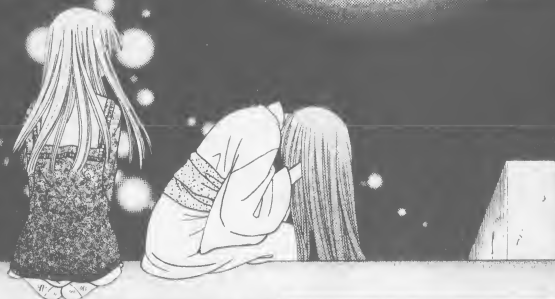
IT'S TOO  
MUCH.

...THAT I  
WOULDN'T  
CRY, BUT...

I DON'T  
HAVE TO  
BE UNDER-  
STOOD.

I DON'T  
CARE IF  
PEOPLE  
HATE ME.

IF I'M  
ALONE.



I'M  
SORRY.



I PROMISED  
MYSELF...

I'M  
GOING  
TO CLING  
TO YOU.

I'M SO WEAK.

I'M SO POWERLESS ON MY OWN.

I'M SO WEAK.

I'M  
SO WEAK.



I...

I'M SORRY

...TO DO  
ANYMORE!

...DON'T  
KNOW...

...WHAT...

...WHAT...

I...

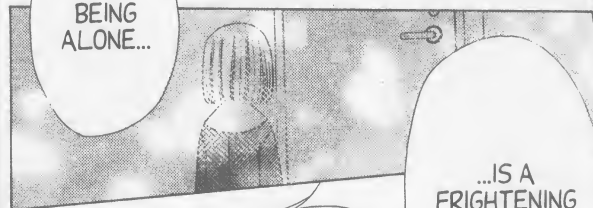


BEING  
BY  
YOUR-  
SELF...

...IS  
SCARY.



BEING  
ALONE...



...IS A  
FRIGHTENING  
WAY TO  
LIVE.



I JUST  
DON'T  
KNOW.

I  
CAN'T DO  
ANYTHING  
...

...ON MY  
OWN.

BY  
MYSELF.



I CAN'T  
STAND UP...

...ON  
MY OWN...

BY MY OWN  
POWER.

WHAT'S  
IMPOR-  
TANT IS  
...

OR...

...WILL YOU  
ALWAYS GO  
CRYING TO  
HER?

SHE  
SHOULD  
HAVE  
JUST...

...GIVEN IN  
AND CRIED  
TO HER  
LONG AGO.



BUT THERE  
WAS ANOTHER  
LIGHT...

...THAT LIT UP  
PLACES THAT  
THE EYE CAN'T  
SEE.

THE SUNRISE  
I SAW THAT  
DAY...

...QUIETLY...

...SPREAD  
ITS LIGHT OVER  
THE LAND.

Filler  
Sketch

Haru was thinking of confessing his love to Rin when his height surpassed hers. He's caught up by strange things.





## Chapter 81

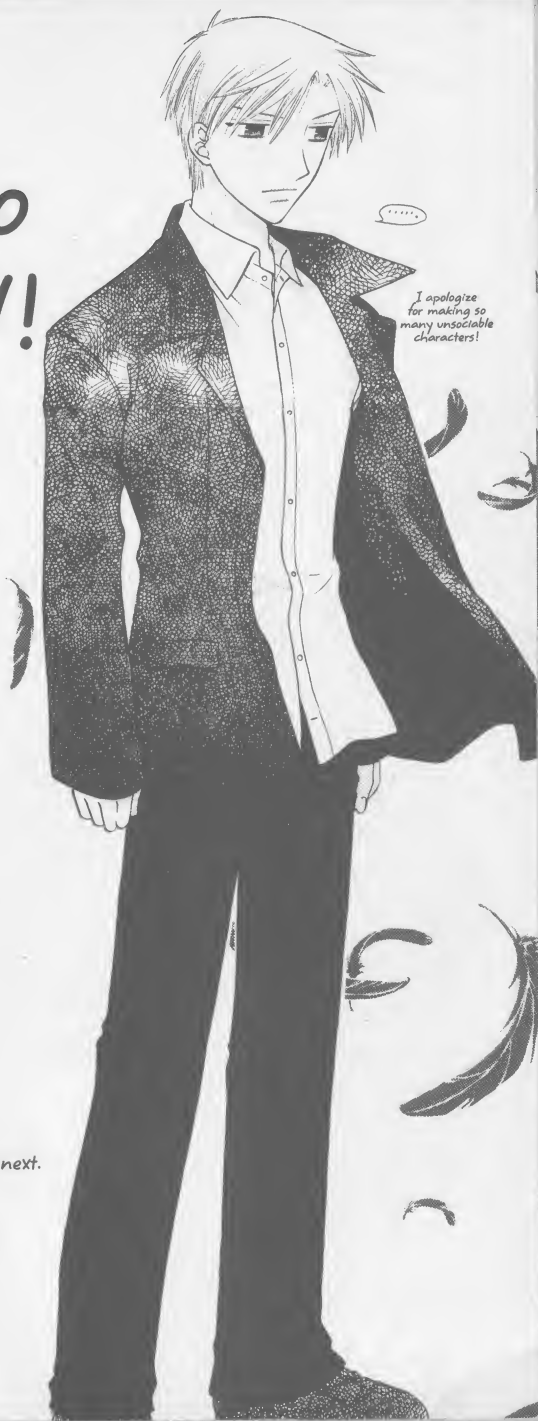


*I feel so  
grateful!*

*Harada-sama, Araki-sama,  
Mom, Dad, and everyone  
who reads and supports  
this manga... Thank you so  
much for your support!*

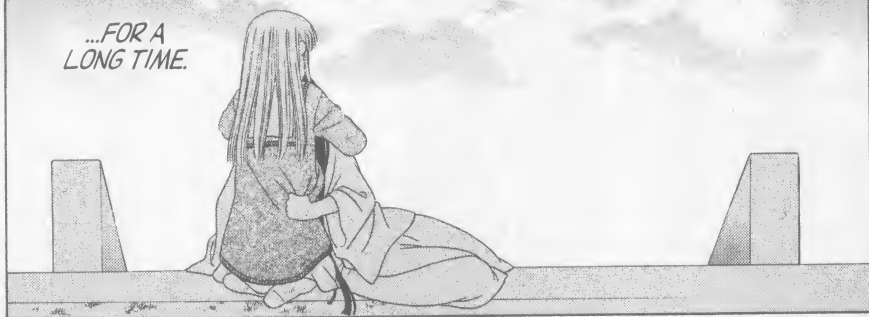
*The honorable head of the family is next.*

*-Natsuki Takaya*



THE TWO OF  
THEM STAYED THERE  
LIKE THAT...

...FOR A  
LONG TIME.



SHE WAS  
SCOWLING  
AS IF EM-  
BARRASSED  
THOUGH...



IN THE  
MORNING,  
HATORI  
CAME FOR  
HER...

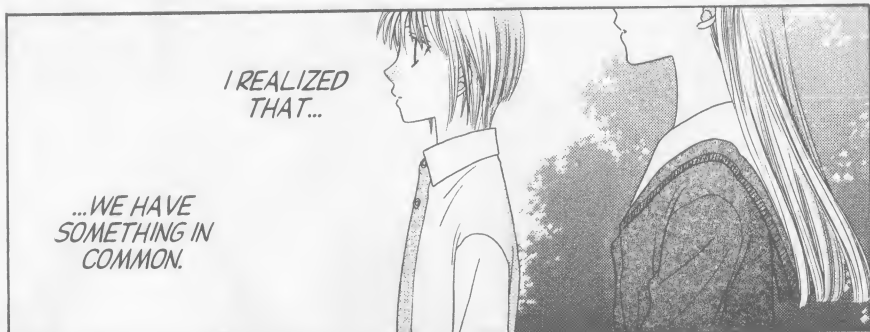


THIS TIME  
SHE WENT  
WITHOUT  
ARGUING.

...AND  
SHE WAS  
TAKEN TO THE  
HOSPITAL.

I REALIZED  
THAT...

...WE HAVE  
SOMETHING IN  
COMMON.







WE'RE  
LOOKING  
FOR...

IN  
JUST ONE  
RESPECT...

...RIN AND I  
ARE ALIKE.

...THE  
SAME  
THING.



YEAH, IT  
WAS KINDA  
INTENSE.

WHEN  
I WENT TO  
SEE HER, SHE  
STARTED  
BRANDISHING  
HER I.V....



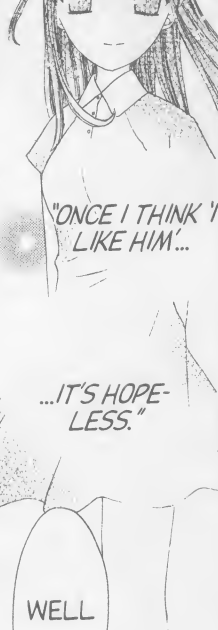
By the way, Shigure is the one who told him.



I'M SURE THAT...

...ISN'T BASED ON LOGIC.





"ONCE I THINK 'I  
LIKE HIM'...

...IT'S HOPE-  
LESS."

WELL  
...

...IT'S HOPE-  
LESS."

WELL  
...

BUT KIMI WILL  
BE WAITING FOR  
YOU. SO PLEASE  
HURRY HERE!

THE MEEEEETING  
IS ABOUT TO  
STAAART, SO  
PLEASE HURRY TO  
KIMI, 'KAAAY?

Yun-  
y  
nccc  
!-

---

**Basically,  
it's like this.**

Twelfth month (in  
lunar calendar,  
or January) (O):

Yuki  
...He's the very  
first one, but Yuki  
is the exception.  
He doesn't have  
the name of a  
month. Nothing  
really sounded  
good, and the  
sound "Yuki" came  
into my head.

First month:  
Hatsuharu, from  
Hatsuharu ("Early  
spring")

Second month:  
Kisa, from Kisaragi  
("changing clothes  
month")

Third month:  
Kureno, from  
Kurenoharu ("Late  
Spring")

Fourth month:  
Hatori, from Kono-  
hatorizuki ("Month  
of Taking Leaves"  
(to silkworms))

Fifth month:  
Ayame, from Aya-  
mezuki (Month of  
Irises)

To be continued...





GRR...  
I AM  
SERIOUSLY  
REALLY  
PISSED!

Tee  
hee!

**HURRY  
TO KAKERU.**  
**OOPSIE! DID  
I MAKE A  
BOO-BOO?**

I  
found  
you,  
Yun-  
Yun!



Oh,  
come on!

WILL YOU  
SHUT UP! I'M  
NOT THE ONE  
WHO USED  
THE P.A!

...EVEN IF  
IT WAS  
FUNNY!

THERE YOU  
GO, MAKING  
ME FEEL  
LIKE THE  
BAD GUY  
AGAIN!

Are you  
trying to  
drive me  
crazy?

LOOK,  
YOU! IF YOU  
CAN FIND ME  
THAT EASILY,  
DON'T USE THE  
P.A. LIKE THAT!

IT  
WASN'T EASY.  
WE HAD TO LOOK  
PRETTY HARD.  
I MEAN, YOU  
DON'T HAVE A  
CELL PHONE,  
YUN-YUN.

SO WE  
USED THE  
SCHOOL  
P.A. UNDER-  
STAND?

WHY  
WERE YOU  
EVEN PAGING ME  
SO EARLY, ANYWAY?  
WHEN IT'S TIME  
TO GO, I'LL GO!



HEY...  
YOU TWO,  
WHAT ARE  
YOU SAY-  
ING?

*I'm  
gonna  
hit  
you.*

I PROMISE  
I WILL MAKE  
YOUR  
DAUGHTER  
HAPPY!!

Yes!

WH-  
WHAT'S  
THIS ALL  
OF A SUD-  
DEN...?

I bid you,  
please take  
good care  
of my little  
YUKI.



EH? AH,  
BUT...

*We  
weren't  
done  
talking...*

NOW, YUKI...  
YOU HAVE  
A MEETING  
TO RUN,  
DON'T YOU?

YOU  
MUST BE  
GOING.

*It's just a  
joke...*

"DON'T  
STAY  
LOST."



GOOD  
LUCK.

TO  
BOTH OF  
US.



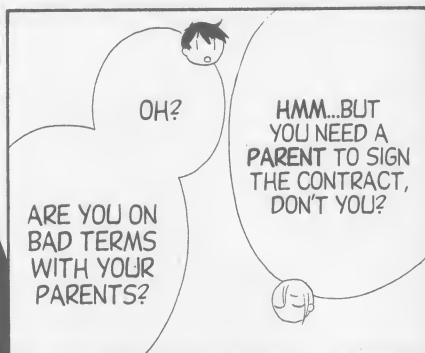




...WE  
PUSH...

...ALL OF  
EACH OTHERS'  
WRONG  
BUTTONS, I  
GUESS...

*It's hard to  
explain.*



ARE YOU ON  
BAD TERMS  
WITH YOUR  
PARENTS?

OH?

HMM...BUT  
YOU NEED A  
PARENT TO SIGN  
THE CONTRACT,  
DON'T YOU?



MORE  
LIKE...

BAD  
TERMS  
...



YEAH, YEAH.  
"PUSHING  
THE WRONG  
BUTTONS"!  
LIKE THAT!

EH?

Student Council  
Room

THAT'S  
WHAT IT IS,  
ALL RIGHT.

*Mm-hm.*

...? WHAT  
ARE YOU  
AGREEING  
WITH YOUR-  
SELF ON...?



THAT...!

I KNOW  
HOW THAT  
IS!

I KNOW  
EXACTLY HOW  
THAT IS!



...IT'S...

crack...

UH?

WELL,  
DUH!  
IT'S THE  
ENEMY!!

IS  
SOMEONE  
RIOTING  
INSIDE...?

DON'T  
BE SO  
HAPPY!

カ  
ラ  
ッ  
open

YOU SEEM  
AWFULLY  
HAPPY ABOUT  
THIS...

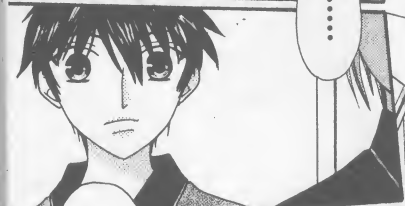
It's  
an  
enemy  
!!

IT'S AN ENEMY,  
YUN-YUN! THE  
ENEMY HAS APPEARED  
BEFORE THE SCHOOL  
DEFENSE FORCE AT LAST!  
AW, CRAP! NO WAY! NOT  
GOOD! THIS IS A  
PROBLEM!!

Yahoo!!



.....



MACHI  
...?



WHY  
DO YOU  
DO THESE  
THINGS  
...?

skritch  
skritch



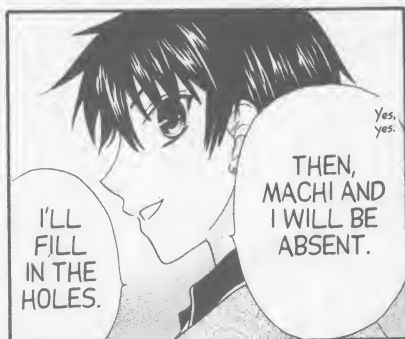
AW,  
MAN.



AGAIN...

IT'S  
JUST  
LIKE  
THAT  
TIME.

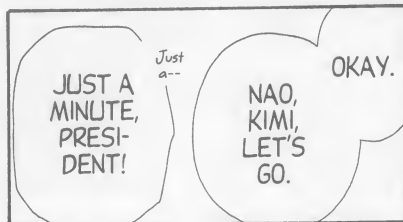




I'LL  
FILL  
IN THE  
HOLES.

THEN,  
MACHI AND  
I WILL BE  
ABSENT.

Yes,  
yes.



JUST A  
MINUTE,  
PRESI-  
DENT!

Just  
a--

NAO,  
KIMI,  
LET'S  
GO.

OKAY.



I UNDER-  
STAND. FOR  
NOW, WE'LL  
LEAVE IT  
TO YOU.

WE'LL  
GO AHEAD  
AND START  
THE MEETING...  
WE'RE COUNT-  
ING ON YOU.

HUH?!



I...  
SAID...  
LATER.



ARE YOU  
SURE ABOUT  
THIS?! PRE-  
TENDING WE  
DIDN'T SEE  
THAT?!

IT'S  
JUST FOR  
NOW. WE'LL  
MAKE SURE IT  
GETS TAKEN  
CARE OF  
LATER.



THAT'S  
NOT WHAT  
I MEAN--!

turn



FIRST,  
WE HAVE  
TO CALM  
HER DOWN.

I THINK  
THERE'S  
SOME  
REASON  
FOR IT.



AND IT  
SEEMS LIKE  
KAKERU  
KNOWS THE  
CIRCUM-  
STANCES.



THEY SEEMED  
CLOSE... BUT  
NOT LIKE THEY  
WERE BOY-  
FRIEND AND  
GIRLFRIEND.

THOSE TWO...  
I NOTICED  
A STRANGE  
AURA BE-  
TWEEN THEM  
FROM THE  
BEGINNING.



chatter

Yeah,  
you too.

chatter

chatter

Nice  
work!



YUN-YUN'S  
BEING  
FIRM! SUCH  
POWER!



THERE'S  
NO DOUBT  
THAT  
MACHI  
DID IT.

BUT...



...I GET THE  
FEELING WE  
SHOULDN'T  
BLINDLY  
MAKE A BIG  
DEAL OUT  
OF IT.







SO...

WHY MUST  
KIMI BE  
LIKE  
THAT...?

Oh, dear!  
What?

We'll  
pound  
you!

St--

STOP  
JOKING AROUND  
LIKE THAT! WE  
DID CLEAN  
IT!!



MAYBE IT'S  
JUST HER  
WAY OF  
RELIEVING  
STRESS...

BUT I  
WISH SHE  
WOULDN'T  
CAUSE PROBL-  
EMS FOR  
OTHERS!



...IT  
REALLY  
WAS  
KURAGI'S  
DOING.

THERE HAVE  
BEEN RUMORS  
ABOUT HER  
FOR A WHILE.  
THAT SHE'S  
A DEMON OF  
DESTRUCTION.



SHE'S A  
STRANGE  
WOMAN,  
APPAR-  
ENTLY.

KNOCK-  
ING OVER  
BOOKS,  
DUMPING  
BOXES OF  
CHALK...

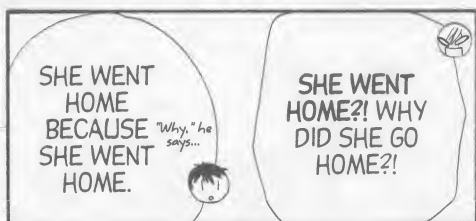
...BREAKING  
THINGS...  
STUFF LIKE  
THAT.



WHA?!  
YOU HAVEN'T  
FINISHED  
CLEANING IT  
UP YET?!

WHERE'S  
MACHI?

SHE  
WENT  
HOME.



SHE WENT  
HOME  
BECAUSE  
SHE WENT  
HOME.

*"Why," he  
says...*

SHE WENT  
HOME?! WHY  
DID SHE GO  
HOME?!



HEEEY.

THANKS  
FOR GOING  
AHEAD WITH  
THE MEET-  
ING.



I AM  
NOT  
PLEASED!!

EH...?

IN  
THAT CASE,  
I'M NOT FEELING  
WELL EITHER,  
SO I'LL BE  
GOING ON HOME  
MYSELF!

SHE...  
LEFT THE MESS FOR  
THE REST  
OF US TO  
CLEAN  
UP...

...AND  
WENT  
HOME.

slam

YOU'RE  
NOT GOING  
TO HELP  
ME?

Whaa?!

WELL,  
KAKERU,  
GOOD LUCK  
ON FINISHING  
CLEANING  
UP.

I HAVE  
THINGS  
TO DO,  
TOO.

Besides...

YOU SAID  
YOU'D FILL IN  
THE HOLES,  
RIGHT?

AND WE  
STILL  
HAVE  
WORK  
TO DO

...

Kimi  
ran  
off  
too.

...THERE'S  
PROBABLY  
A LOT OF  
THINGS HE'S  
NOT HAPPY  
ABOUT RIGHT  
NOW.

WHAT  
IS CHIBI-SUKE  
SO WORKED  
UP ABOUT?

slam

THOSE  
ARE  
IMPORTANT  
PAPERS...!

WHY  
YOU--!  
WHAT DID  
YOU DO  
THAT  
FOR?!

I DON'T  
KNOW,  
MAN...

EH?!

WHY  
DOES  
MACHI DO  
THESE  
THINGS?

AAAH!

FLY  
AWAY!



...SHE'S  
DEPRESSED  
?

COULD  
IT BE...



COULD  
BE.

HMMM  
...



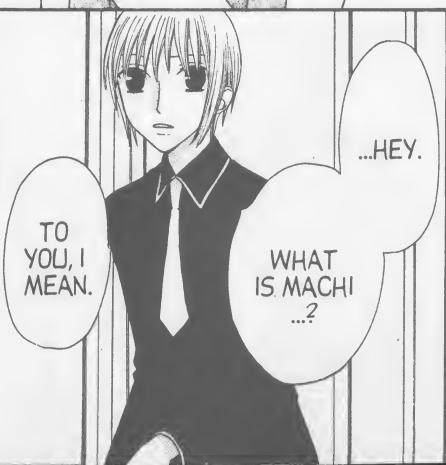
SHE  
WON'T TRY  
TO TALK  
ABOUT ANY-  
THING.

WHEN  
I ASKED IF  
IT WAS MY  
FAULT...

...SHE  
WENT  
HOME.



MY  
LITTLE  
SISTER.



TO  
YOU, I  
MEAN.

WHAT  
IS MACHI  
...?

...HEY.



...AH...

...

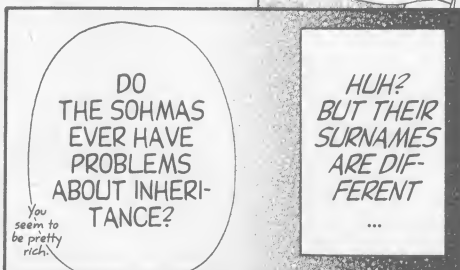


WE'RE  
SIBLINGS.



EH?

MY  
SISTER.



DO  
THE SOHMAS  
EVER HAVE  
PROBLEMS  
ABOUT INHERI-  
TANCE?

*You  
seem to  
be pretty  
rich.*

HUH?  
BUT THEIR  
SURNAME  
ARE DIF-  
FERENT

...



*Yeah,  
that's it.  
It's like  
that!*

OH, I SEE,  
YOU'RE  
SIBLINGS!  
I GET IT!!

YOU'RE  
KIND OF  
AGREEING  
WITH YOUR-  
SELF, TOO,  
YUN-YUN.

?



EH?

NO.

WELL,  
UM...THERE  
MIGHT BE...  
BUT I DON'T  
KNOW.

HMM...

AND  
SO...

...A FIERCE  
COMPETITION  
DEVELOPED  
BETWEEN OUR  
MOTHERS.

BOTH  
SAYING, "MY  
CHILD IS THE  
APPROPRIATE  
HEIR."

AS A  
RESULT,  
MACHI  
AND I...

...WERE  
RAISED  
VERRRRY  
STRICTLY.

MACHI  
AND I ARE  
SIBLINGS...

...BUT  
WE HAVE  
DIFFERENT  
MOTHERS.

IN OUR  
FAMILY,  
THINGS GOT  
KINDA...  
MESSY.

SEE, OUR  
FATHER'S PRETTY  
RICH, HIMSELF,  
SO THERE WAS A  
MESS ABOUT WHO  
WOULD BE HIS  
HEIR.

I'M THE  
OLDEST  
SON, BUT  
THROUGH A  
MISTRESS.

MACHI  
WAS BORN  
TO HIS LEGAL  
WIFE, BUT  
SHE'S A YEAR  
YOUNGER AND  
A GIRL.

AFTER  
THAT...

...I THINK MY  
MOTHER CAME  
TO HER SENSES,  
TOO, BECAUSE SHE  
PULLED OUT OF  
THE SUCCESSION  
DEBATE.

"I'M  
BEING USED  
AS A PAWN  
IN SOMEONE  
ELSE'S STU-  
PID GAME."

AT FIRST, I  
OBEDIENTLY  
WENT ALONG  
WITH IT AND  
TRIED TO LIVE  
UP TO THEIR  
DEMANDS.

'CUZ,  
YOU KNOW,  
WHEN YOU'RE  
A KID, YOUR  
PARENTS ARE  
EVERYTHING.

I GUESS  
THAT'S WHAT  
THEY CALL  
THE BUDDING  
OF ONE'S  
SELF.

I WENT ON  
A RAMPAGE,  
SAYING, "I'M NOT  
GONNA PLAY  
YOUR STUPID  
GAME ANY-  
MORE!"

BUT  
ONE DAY...

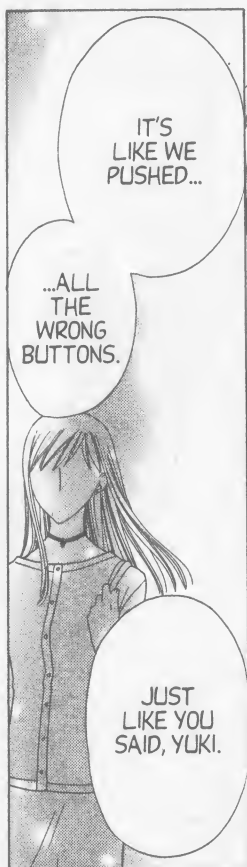
AND  
I WAS  
OFFICIALLY  
FREE!

AND SO,  
THAT BRINGS  
US TO THE  
PRESENT.

...I  
STARTED  
THINKING, "ISN'T  
THIS KINDA  
CRAZY?"



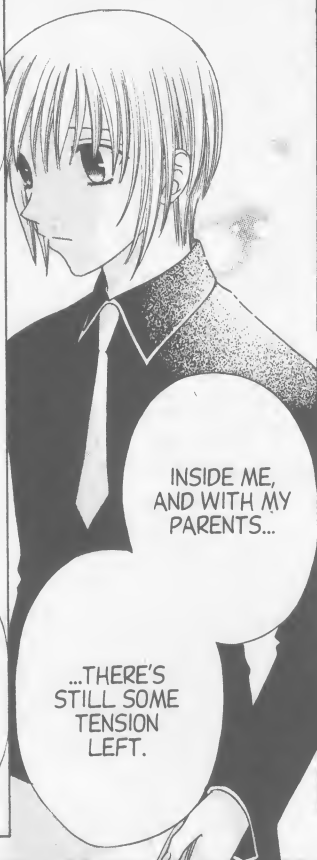




IT'S  
LIKE WE  
PUSHED...

...ALL  
THE  
WRONG  
BUTTONS.

JUST  
LIKE YOU  
SAID, YUKI.



INSIDE ME,  
AND WITH MY  
PARENTS...

...THERE'S  
STILL SOME  
TENSION  
LEFT.



I SEE...  
IT MIGHT  
BE ...



...THAT  
MACHI'S NOT  
"FREE" YET.



AND TO DRAG  
YOUNG KIDS INTO  
IT...OUR PARENTS  
REALLY ARE  
HOPELESS.



IT DOESN'T  
MATTER IF AN  
HEIR IS MALE  
OR FEMALE OR  
WHATEVER.



MAN...

IT'S  
SUCH AN OLD-  
FASHIONED  
IDEA TO BEGIN  
WITH.



WAH?!



...CHILDREN  
CAN'T  
SWITCH  
THEIR  
PARENTS.

JUST  
LIKE PARENTS  
CAN'T SWITCH  
THEIR  
CHILDREN.

EVEN IF  
THEY'RE  
HOPELESS,  
OR IF YOU'RE  
APPALLED  
BY THEM, OR  
ANGRY WITH  
THEM...

WHAT'S  
THIS? HAVE  
YOU GONE  
MAD, TOO,  
YUN-YUN?

*After I  
went to  
all the  
trouble  
to pick  
them  
up.*

OH,  
MY...



STILL...

...YOU  
HAVE TO  
LIVE WITH  
IT.

THERE'S  
NO "RESET"  
BUTTON.

SO...



YOU'RE  
RIGHT.

...YOU  
HAVE TO  
DEAL WITH  
WHAT YOU'VE  
GOT.

IT'S  
LIKE...

*Basically...*

...? WHAT'S  
THAT SUP-  
POSED TO  
MEAN?

I MEAN,  
WHAT IF I  
LOOK COOL  
WITH THE  
WRONG  
BUTTONS  
PRESSED?

YEAH, I'M  
NOT SO SURE  
ABOUT "GOING  
BACK."

BUT  
MAYBE WE  
CAN GO BACK  
AND LEARN  
THE RIGHT  
BUTTONS TO  
PRESS.



YOU  
LOOK  
LIKE A  
BUFFOON  
...

Pff!

HONESTLY  
?

OUCH!  
THAT  
BAD,  
HUH?!

Eeh?!



AH!  
THAT'S IT!  
YOU CAN  
LAUGH IT  
OFF!

YOU KNOW  
THINGS ARE  
GETTING BETTER  
WHEN YOU CAN  
SAY, "OH WELL,"  
AND LAUGH.



IF I  
LOOK COOL  
WHEN I PRESS  
MYSELF  
HERE...

UNCOOL!!



WHAT  
YOU'RE  
SAYING  
DOESN'T  
FOLLOW.  
I DON'T  
UNDER-  
STAND.

I'm  
confused.

Like  
I said--

EVERYONE  
HAS  
PRESSURES  
...

...IN  
THEIR  
LIVES.

ALL  
KINDS OF  
PRESSURES,  
AND WE JUST  
HAVE TO  
LEARN TO  
DEAL WITH  
THEM.

Sohma

AND  
MY  
"PARENTS."

fwip

...I  
SIGNED  
IT.

THIS IS  
ALL YOU  
NEED,  
RIGHT?

FOR  
THE CELL  
PHONE  
CONTRACT?

KAKERU...

MACHI...

EVEN ME

IS  
THIS  
ALL YOU  
WANTED?

YES.  
HE AND I  
ARE BOTH  
VERY  
BUSY.

YEAH...  
WILL DAD  
BE GETTING  
HOME LATE  
TONIGHT,  
TOO?



MADAME.



IT'S  
ALMOST  
TIME FOR  
YOU TO BE  
GOING OUT.

Y-YES, I  
KNOW.



YEAH.

I JUST  
NEEDED A  
PARENT'S  
SIGNATURE.

...THANK  
YOU.



DON'T...  
USE IT  
WASTE-  
FULLY.

DON'T  
...

...



THEN...  
I'LL BE  
GOING  
HOME,  
TOO.

YUKI.







IF SOMEDAY...

...WE CAN  
LOOK BACK  
ON IT...

SURE  
IT'S NOT  
YOUR IMAGI-  
NATION?

DO  
THEY?

...OR  
DO THESE  
PAPERS  
SEEM SOME-  
WHAT...  
WORN OUT?

IS IT  
JUST  
ME...

...AND LAUGH  
TOGETHER...



## Chapter 82

IT'S  
NOT TRUE,  
IT'S NOT  
TRUE...

*Both of those are lies.*

I'VE  
HEARD RUMORS  
THAT THERE'S  
GOING TO BE A  
CAMPFIRE, AND  
WE'RE EVEN GOING  
TO SHOOT OFF  
FIREWORKS. IS  
THAT TRUE?

Ah...!  
OH  
YEAH.  
YUKI-  
KUN!

THE  
CULTURAL  
FESTIVAL  
THIS YEAR...

...BUT  
IT'S KIND OF  
IMPOSSIBLE.  
I'M SORRY.

I  
SEEM TO  
REMEMBER  
SOMEONE  
SUGGESTING  
THOSE  
THINGS...

YES...  
OF  
COURSE  
...

N-NO...!  
PLEASE  
DON'T  
APOLOGIZE!

IMPOSSIBLE,  
YOU SAY?



THE  
ELECTRIC  
BILL...

OH, THAT  
SOUNDS SO  
ROMANTIC...!

Now, sparkle,  
my house of  
learning!!

AAYA LIT UP  
THE ENTIRE  
CAMPUS WITH  
SPOTLIGHTS!

COULD  
YOU NOT  
USE NII-SAN  
AS AN  
EXAMPLE  
...?

DO  
YOUR BEST,  
PRESIDENT-  
SAN!

Eh  
heh!  
♥

TO BE  
ROMANTIC,  
YOU HAVE  
TO SPEND  
MONEY!!

Kyon-  
chan, you  
have no  
imagina-  
tion!!

OH,  
REALLY.  
I DIDN'T  
KNOW  
THAT.

THAT  
SMILE  
HAS MADE  
ME VERY  
ANGRY...

WOULD  
YOU LIKE SOME  
GELATIN FOR  
DESSERT?

UM... BY  
THE WAY,  
EVERYONE...

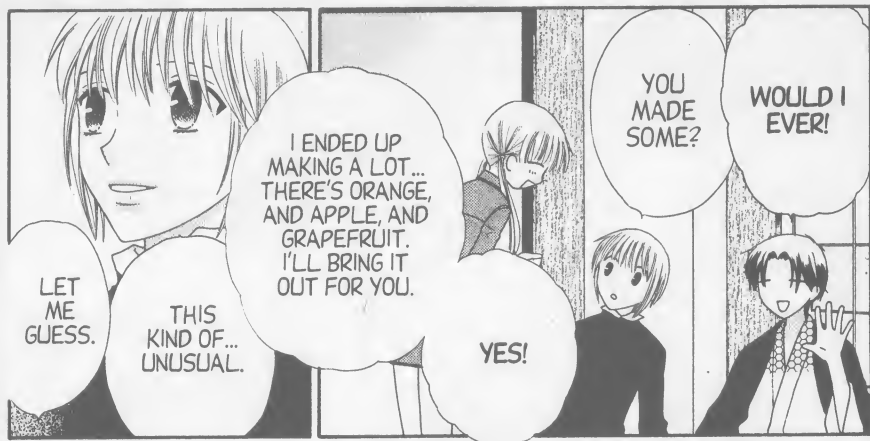
IT'S JUST  
THAT THE  
STUDENT  
BODY NEEDS  
TO MAKE THE  
ADVANCE  
PREPARA-  
TIONS.

NO,  
IT'S STILL  
A WAYS OFF.  
WE HAVE  
TESTS, FIRST.

Anyway...  
IS IT TIME  
FOR THE  
CULTURAL  
FESTIVAL  
ALREADY?

I'm going  
to the  
festival!





Basically, it's like this. Continued...

Sixth month: Isuzu, from Isuzukuretsuki (month of the last cool spring days)

Seventh month: Hiro, from Fumihirogetsuki (month of publication)

Eighth month: Ritsu, from Odakaritsuki (rice harvest month)

Ninth month: Momiji, from Momijitsuki (Autumn leaves month)

Tenth month: Shigure, from Shigurezuki (Autumn showers month)

Eleventh month: Kagura, from Kagurazuki (month of Shinto song and dance)

...like that. T-tired!  
I really am bad at writing the kanji characters. Especially writing horizontally. I don't know if it's because I'm left-handed or what, though.



HUH?

MORE SPECIFICALLY,  
SHE DIDN'T  
SWING THE I.V.  
AT YOU?

YOU  
WENT  
TO THE  
HOSPITAL?

YES!

WHEN  
YOU WENT,  
DID RIN...  
SEEM  
OKAY?

THEY  
EXIST.

Trust me.

WHERE  
WOULD YOU  
FIND A SICK  
PATIENT  
WHO WOULD  
DO THAT?

That's stupid.

NO,  
SHE  
WOULD  
NEVER...

She did.

DRAGGING  
YOU INTO  
FAMILY  
PROBLEMS...  
WE'VE  
CAUSED YOU  
TROUBLE.

THAT  
YOU HAD TO  
GET MIXED  
UP WITH  
RIN.

I'M  
TERRIBLY  
SORRY  
ABOUT  
THIS.

AH! UM,  
BUT IT'S  
TRUE SHE  
DID SEEM  
VERY ENER-  
GETIC...!

AND  
THE  
COLOR IS  
BACK IN  
HER  
FACE.



NEVER...!

N-NO...

I'M NOT  
TROUBLED.  
NOT AT ALL...  
ABSOLUTELY  
NOT!

HEY,  
WHAT  
ARE YOU  
DOING,  
EATING  
AL-  
READY?!

THANK  
YOU.

.....

...TO  
BE  
SUFFER-  
ING.

SHE  
SEEMED  
...

HEY!  
SCUM OF AN  
ADULT, OVER  
THERE!

THE  
LEAST I CAN  
DO TO THANK  
YOU IS TO  
FEED YOU THIS  
DELICIOUS  
GELATIN.

Say, "aahh."  
♡



EVEN  
SO...

SHE  
SEEMED  
TO BE  
SUFFER-  
ING...

...AS  
SHE HELD  
ME.

...EAT  
YOUR  
DINNER?

WON'T  
YOU...

...FOOD  
THAT I  
HATE.


IT'S  
ALL...

I  
WAS PA-  
THETIC.



WHAT  
FOOD...  
DON'T YOU  
HATE?

ALL I  
COULD DO  
WAS HOLD  
HER IN  
RETURN.



I MUST BE  
GETTING TO BE  
MORE AND MORE  
CONCEITED.



I KEEP  
THINKING...  
THINGS LIKE  
THAT.



GELATIN.

BUT...



...I CAN'T  
HELP BUT  
THINK THOSE  
THINGS.

"IF I COULD  
ONLY DO  
SOMETHING..."



ENDURING  
BY HER-  
SELF.

SUFFERING  
FROM THE  
PAIN IN HER  
HEART.

ALL  
ALONE...

I'M  
SURE...

...THAT  
FOR A  
LONG TIME  
SHE'S BEEN  
HOLDING  
ON BY  
HERSELF.



EH!?!

OH MY,  
WHAT SHOULD  
I DO? SHE'S NOT  
SUPPOSED TO  
HAVE VISITORS  
RIGHT NOW.



OH!

I-IS SHE,  
UM, I MEAN...  
IS SHE THAT  
BAD...?!  
No, that's  
not it  
...



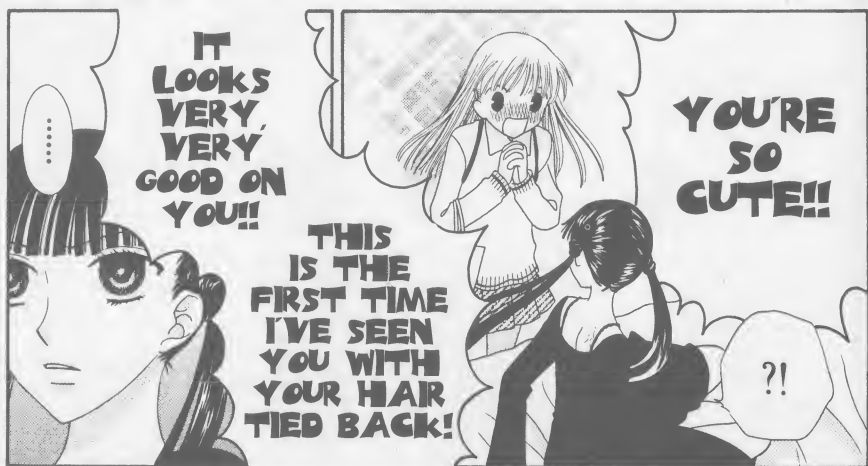
THANK  
GOODNESS. IN  
THAT CASE,  
PLEASE, GO  
AHEAD AND  
SEE HER.

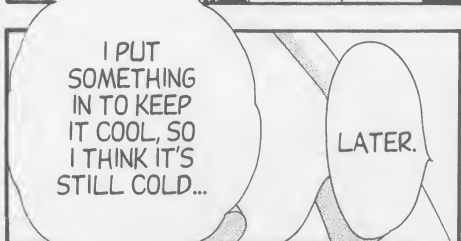
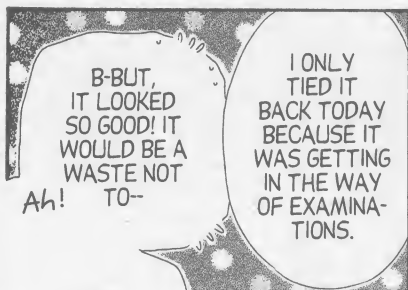
IT'S  
OKAY TO  
LET GIRLS  
SEE HER.

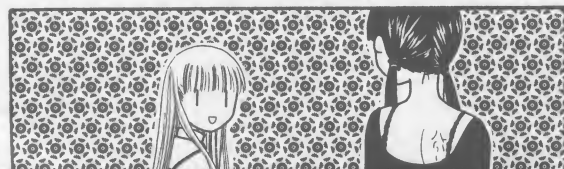
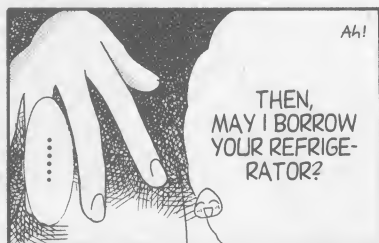
IS  
THAT  
SO?

ISUZU  
SOHMA-  
SAN?











I HAD  
FORGOTTEN...!

I'M  
SORR--!

N-NO, IT'S  
NOT THAT I  
HAD COMPLETELY  
FORGOTTEN, BUT I WAS  
THINKING OF ONLY  
ISUZU-SAN HERSELF,  
SO YOU COULD SAY  
I CARELESSLY PUT  
IT TO THE SIDE.

N-NO! NOW  
THAT I'VE SAID  
I WOULD GET  
INVOLVED, I MUSTN'T  
BE CARELESS  
OR ANYTHING!

WHY IS IT  
THAT WHEN I  
THINK ABOUT  
THAT ONE THING,  
MY HEAD GETS  
SO FULL THAT...  
I... I...!



WHAT  
IS IT?

I'M THE  
WORST... THE  
WORST! I'M  
ASHAMED OF  
MYSELF!!



...TOLD  
ME...

AKITO-  
SAN...



UNCHANG-  
ING.

...THAT HE IS  
LIKE GOD. THAT  
EVERYONE IN  
THE ZODIAC  
WILL LIVE BY  
HIS SIDE.

THAT  
EVERYONE...  
WOULD LIVE...  
IN THE SAME  
PLACE, AT THE  
SAME SPEED.



IS  
THAT...



...THE  
CURSE?

IS THE  
"BOND"...

...WHAT  
THE CURSE  
IS...TO  
EVERYONE?

EVEN IF  
THEY WERE  
REBORN  
SEVERAL  
TIMES...

...THEY  
WOULD GO  
TO HIS SIDE,  
AND NEVER  
LEAVE.

THEY  
WOULD  
GO TO SEE  
HIM.

THEY  
WOULD  
ALWAYS  
...

TO BE  
TOGETHER  
...

...FOR  
ETERNITY.





A BOND...

...MAY  
LOOK LIKE A  
BEAUTIFUL  
THING FROM  
THE OUT-  
SIDE...

...BUT  
IF THOSE  
INVOLVED SEE IT  
AS A BURDEN, IT'S  
NOTHING BUT A  
SHACKLE.

THAT'S  
WHY...

...IT'S A  
CURSE.



*"CONNECTED  
BY BLOOD."*

*"A BOND OF  
BLOOD."*



WE  
MEMBERS  
OF THE  
ZODIAC...

...ARE  
STILL  
BOUND BY  
THAT  
PROMISE.

EVEN  
WITH NO  
MEMORIES  
OF IT.

THE  
BLOOD OF  
THE SPIRITS  
REMEMBERS.



ALWAYS  
...

...BE  
TOGETHER.



I  
WONDER IF  
IT REALLY...  
DOESN'T  
EXIST.

A WAY...  
TO BREAK  
THE  
CURSE.



NOT LIKE  
HE WOULD  
TELL US  
IF HE DID,  
THOUGH.

I DON'T  
KNOW  
IF EVEN  
AKITO  
KNOWS A  
WAY.



I THOUGHT...  
IF IT WAS  
SOMEONE  
CLOSE TO  
AKITO, THEN...

BUT GURE-  
NII SAYS HE  
DOESN'T KNOW,  
EITHER.

WHAT  
ABOUT...

...KURENO-  
SAN?



HE'S NO  
GOOD.

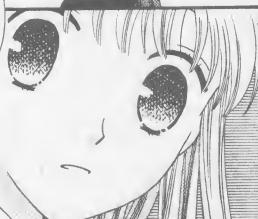


"HE'S  
AKITO'S  
PERSONAL  
ASSISTANT  
OR SOME-  
THING."

HE DOES  
WHAT-  
EVER AKITO  
SAYS. HE  
WON'T  
HELP US.

HE'S  
SUSPI-  
CIOUS  
TO BEGIN  
WITH.

I CAN'T  
THINK OF  
HIM AS ONE  
OF US.



THAT'S  
RIGHT  
...

YES...  
MAYBE  
KURENO-  
SAN.



PLEASE...  
DON'T SAY  
IT'S NO  
GOOD...

YOU  
WOULDN'T  
UNDER-  
STAND.

BUT--!

"GOOD-  
BYE."


UH, UM,  
BUT...

I ONLY  
SAID  
WHAT'S  
TRUE.

KURENO-SAN  
ISN'T SUSPI-  
CIOUS...







THE THING  
THAT'S MOST  
IMPORTANT  
TO YOU...



WHAT  
IS IT?



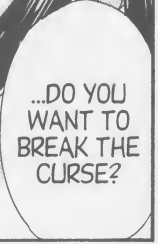
THE  
THING YOU  
CAN'T GIVE  
UP...WHAT  
IS IT?



EH...?



WHY...

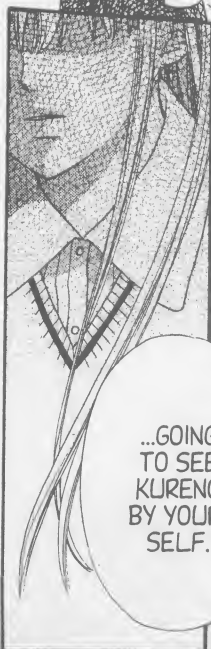
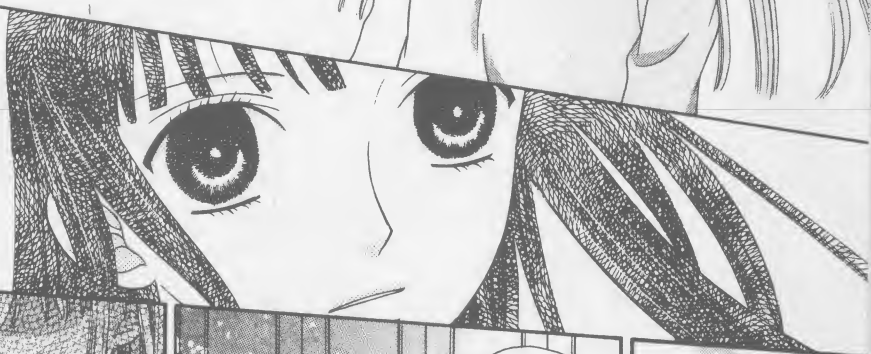
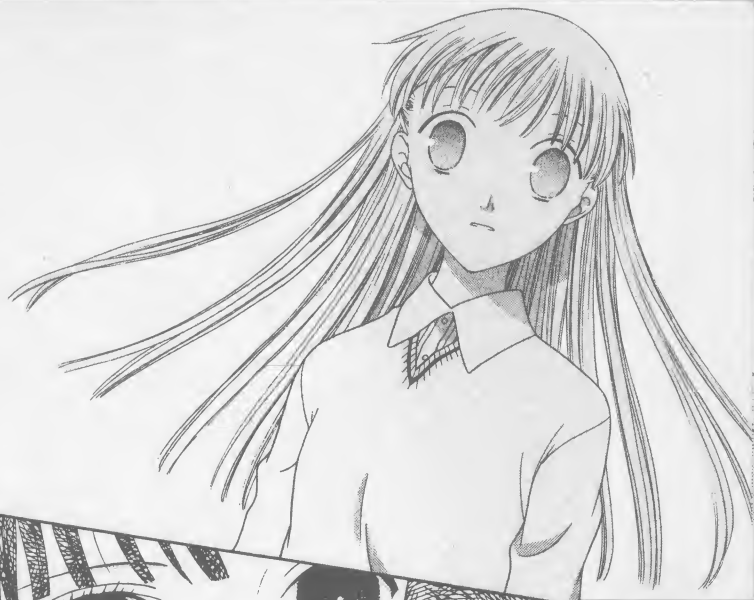


...DO YOU  
WANT TO  
BREAK THE  
CURSE?



IT'S...





...GOING  
TO SEE  
KURENO  
BY YOUR-  
SELF.



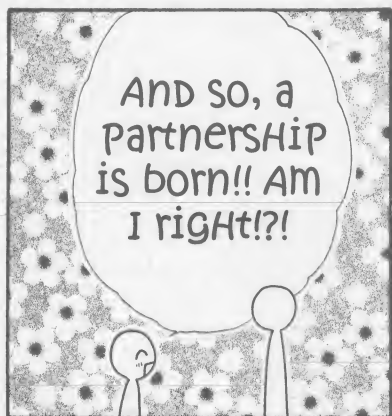
LIKE...

JUST  
DON'T DO  
THINGS  
ON YOUR  
OWN.



IT...  
DOESN'T  
MATTER.

.....



AND SO, a  
partnership  
is born!! AM  
I right?!



AS  
LONG AS  
YOU...

...PROMISE  
ME THAT  
YOU WON'T  
WORK TOO  
HARD...

...BY  
YOURSELF,  
ISUZU-  
SAN.



AH, UM,  
BUT I'LL DO  
MY BEST!  
I'LL WORK  
REALLY  
HARD...!

E E E H H ?!

Keh!

I DON'T NEED  
SOMEONE AS  
UNRELIABLE  
AS YOU FOR A  
PARTNER!!

"THE THING  
THAT'S MOST  
IMPORTANT TO YOU—  
WHAT IS IT?"





BEFORE,  
I WOULD  
HAVE BEEN  
ABLE TO  
REPLY RIGHT  
AWAY.

WHY WAS I  
SO SPEECH-  
LESS?

I...



YES...  
IT'S THE  
APART-  
MENT...



THIS...ISN'T  
SHIGURE-  
SAN'S  
HOUSE.

...WHERE  
WE  
ALWAYS  
LIVED,  
JUST THE  
TWO OF  
US.

THIS...

A  
FAMILIAR  
...

...SMELL.

...IS AN  
APART-  
MENT.



H...UH?

SOMEONE...  
IS THERE...



*NO!*

*YOU  
CAN'T  
GO!*

*YOU'LL  
BE...*

*...IN AN  
ACCIDENT!*



*DON'T  
GO!*

*COME  
BACK!*

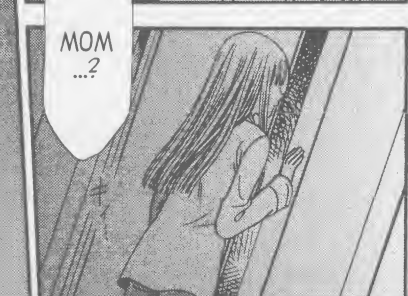
*DON'T  
GO!*



*I'M  
OFF...*

*...TOHRU.*





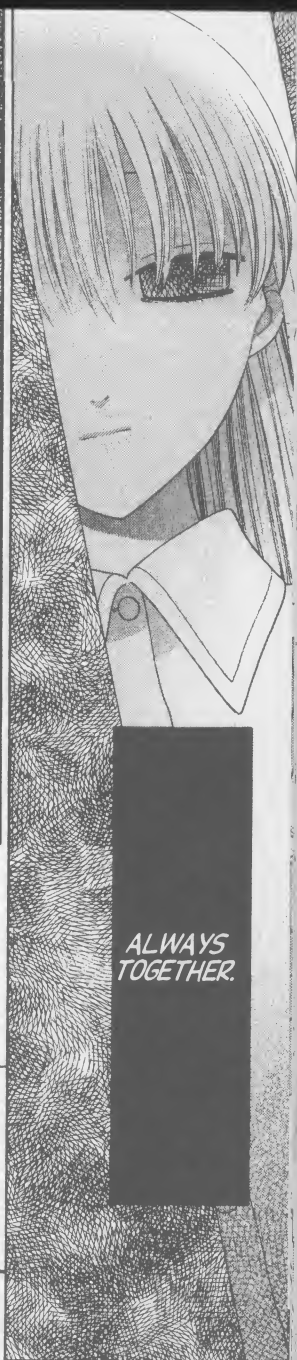




I CAN'T  
EXPLAIN IT  
TO ANYONE...

...BUT ON THE  
OTHER SIDE OF  
THAT DOOR...

...I'M AFRAID  
THAT SHE'S  
STARTING TO  
FALL APART.



ALWAYS  
TOGETHER.



IF THAT HAPPENS  
...



...NO ONE  
CAN  
BRING  
HER  
BACK.



SOME-  
HOW...

...I JUST  
FEEL  
IT.

SOMEONE  
WHO WILL  
GENTLY OPEN  
THAT DOOR.

LIKE  
HARU IS  
THERE FOR  
ME.

I JUST  
HOPE THAT  
SHE CAN FIND  
THE RIGHT  
PERSON FOR  
HER.



...

...TO SOME-  
ONE LIKE  
HER.



PEOPLE  
CAN'T HELP  
BUT BE  
DRAWN...

PEOPLE  
WHO  
KNOW...

...HOW  
SCARY IT  
IS TO BE  
ALONE...

THIS  
TASTES  
GOOD.



GOOD  
MORNING!



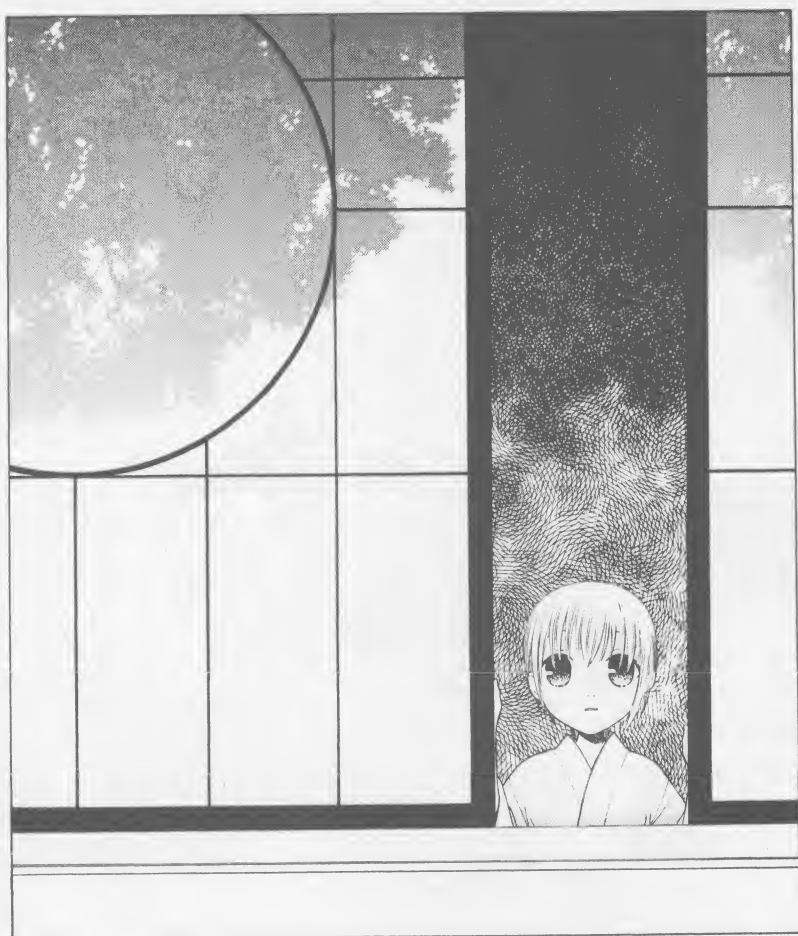
I'm sorry  
for worry-  
ing you...



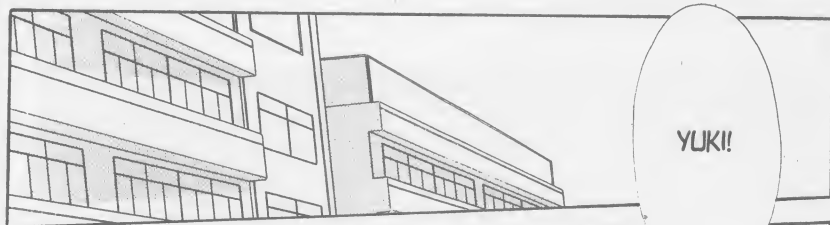
Yes!  
Completely.

Is your  
fever  
gone?

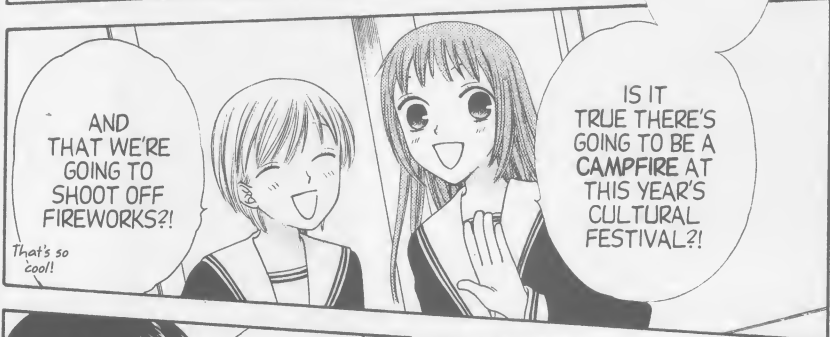
...CAN'T  
HELP  
LOVING  
OTHERS.



## Chapter 83



YUKI!!



AND  
THAT WE'RE  
GOING TO  
SHOOT OFF  
FIREWORKS?!

That's so  
cool!

IS IT  
TRUE THERE'S  
GOING TO BE A  
CAMPFIRE AT  
THIS YEAR'S  
CULTURAL  
FESTIVAL?!



INCRED-  
IBLE!

YOU'RE  
GOING TO BAKE  
POTATOES AT  
THE CAMP-  
FIRE AND GIVE  
THEM TO ALL  
THE STU-  
DENTS?

ARE  
YOU REALLY  
GONNA SET  
OFF A  
HUNDRED  
FIREWORKS?!

PRESIDENT!  
THIS YEAR'S  
FESTIVAL  
IS GONNA BE  
AWESOME!



...  
INCREDIBLE.

THAT  
REALLY  
IS...



AND FOR RUMORS  
OF THAT  
STUPID PLAN  
TO SPREAD...  
GAH!

WHO ON  
EARTH  
WOULD HAVE  
PUT SUCH  
A STUPID  
PLAN IN THE  
SUGGESTION  
BOX?

*It was anonymous.*



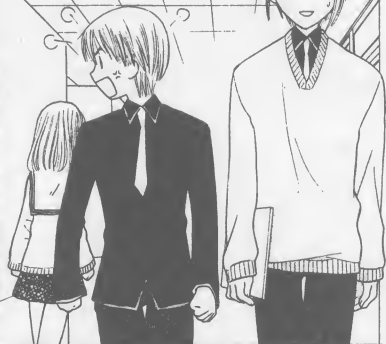
MAYBE  
WHOEVER  
SUGGESTED  
IT IS GOING  
AROUND  
TELLING  
PEOPLE.

IT'S  
HARD WORK  
GOING  
AROUND  
DENYING  
EVERY-  
THING!

*I indeed!!*

I WISH  
THEY'D REALIZE  
THAT IT'S SO  
INCREDIBLE IT  
DEFIES COMMON  
SENSE!

*Everyone...*



DID  
IT NOT GO  
THROUGH?!

HEY,  
YUN-YUN!  
ABOUT THE  
PLAN FOR THE  
CAMPFIRE  
AND FIRE-  
WORKS THAT I  
SUGGESTED...

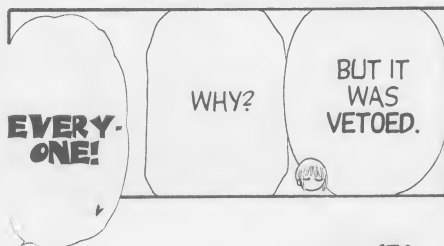
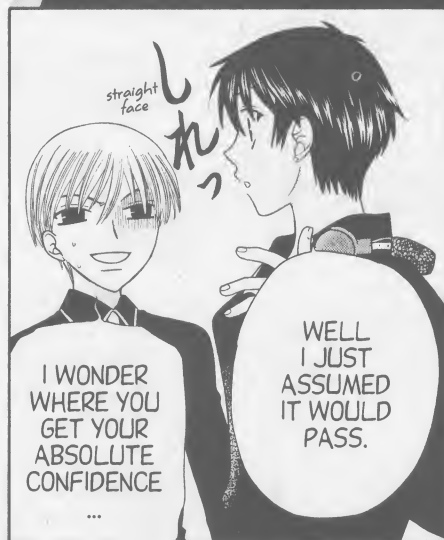
I WISH  
I COULD  
SEE THE  
FACE OF  
WHOEVER'S  
BEHIND  
THIS.

*It really is.*

IT'S  
IRRESPON-  
SIBLE!!

OH!







...So.

There was one mistake in that Momiji's and Kurenno's names are actually reversed. Really... Momitchi is Kurenno. Kurenno-san is Momiji. That's how it should have been. But what can I say... I'm sorry. When I was coming up with names, by the time I realized I was mistaken, it was too late. The chapter where Momitchi first shows up had already been published in *Hana to Yume Magazine*, and somehow, Momitchi had already become "Momiji!!" (at least from this creator's point of view). So, now, here I am thinking, "Well... c'est la vie." Wow...with flubs like that, you can't tell if I'm the kind of person who thinks things through or not...



MACHI'S  
FINALLY  
HERE!

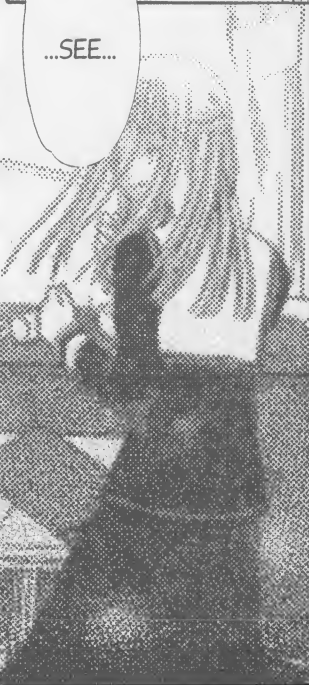
I RAN  
INTO HER  
JUST NOW,  
SOOO--WE  
CAME HERE  
TOGETHER!



SHE SAID  
SHE WAS  
STAYING  
HOME CUZ  
SHE WASN'T  
FEEEEEELING  
WELL.

Must  
have been  
pretty  
icky.

AH...





I  
WON'T  
EVER  
DO IT  
AGAIN.



I  
PROMISE.



I AM  
VERY  
SORRY...

...FOR  
CAUSING  
SUCH  
TROUBLE.

I  
WON'T  
DO IT  
AGAIN.



DOESN'T  
IT DRIVE  
YOU INTO  
A CORNER  
EVEN  
MORE?

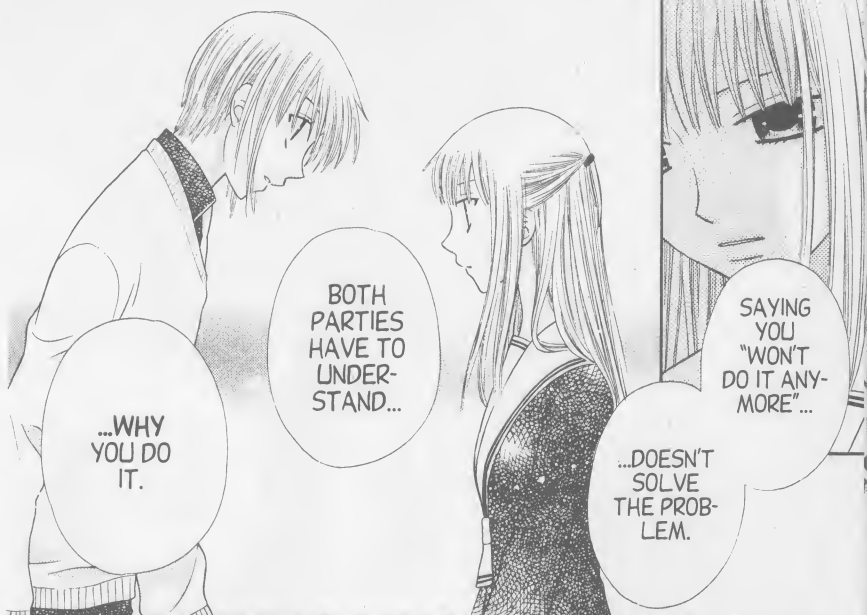
TALKING  
LIKE  
THAT...



YOU  
SAY  
THAT...!

BUT  
YOU'VE  
DONE THIS  
MANY TIMES  
BEFORE,  
HAVEN'T  
YOU?!

YOU  
SAY YOU  
"WON'T DO  
IT AGAIN."



...WHY  
YOU DO  
IT.

BOTH  
PARTIES  
HAVE TO  
UNDER-  
STAND...

SAYING  
YOU  
"WON'T  
DO IT ANY-  
MORE" ...

...DOESN'T  
SOLVE  
THE PROB-  
LEM.



YUN-YUN,  
YOU'RE  
SO KIND!  
♡

Eh?  
WH-  
WHAT?

You say  
SUCH nice  
things!!



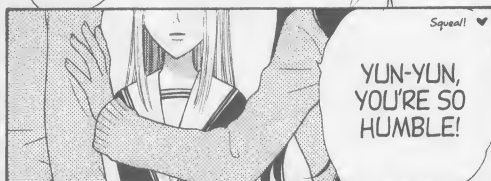
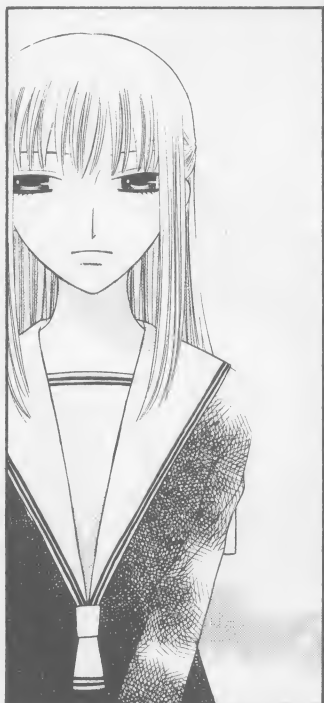
IT'S  
5000  
♡  
PRINCELY!  
♡

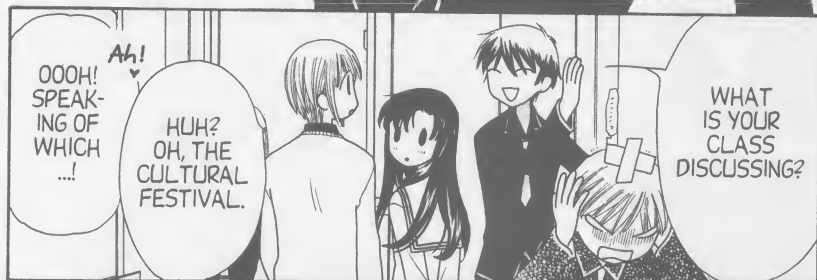
WE'RE  
NOT TEASING  
YOU. IT'S JUST  
THAT...

Get to  
work!

Keh!  
Like  
I'd  
be a  
party  
to this.

WHAT  
ARE YOU  
SAYING...?  
DON'T  
TEASE  
ME...







I'M  
SURE IT  
WILL BE A  
WONDERFUL  
PERFOR-  
MANCE!

RIGHT,  
UO-CHAN,  
HANA-  
CHA--?



IS  
CINDER-  
ELLA...NO  
GOOD?

I HEAR  
THE PLAY WAS  
ALSO DECIDED  
BY A DRAW-  
ING. IT CAN'T  
BE HELPED...  
ARISA...

BUT,  
MAN!

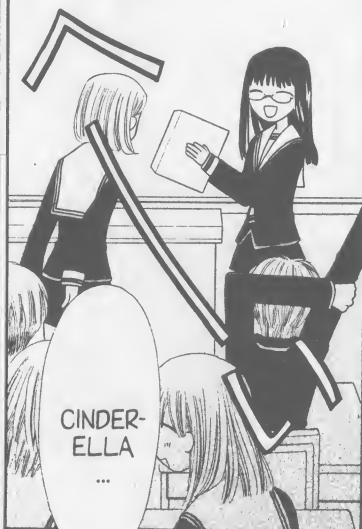


THAT'S  
THE LAST  
ONE.

NOW  
WE'LL ADD  
UP ALL THE  
VOTES AND  
DECIDE THE  
CAST.

PLEASE  
WAIT A  
MOMENT.

*Play  
Cinderella*



CINDER-  
ELLA  
...

CRAY!





DID YOU WANT TO GIVE HIM THE MEDICINE THAT MUCH, ARISA...?

CINDERELLA?! WHAT THE HELL? I THOUGHT WE WERE IN HIGH SCHOOL!

THAT ITCHES!

I mean...

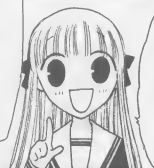


I WANTED TO DO A HISTORICAL PLAY!

MITO KOLIMON\* WAS ON THE LIST, TOO, WASN'T IT?!

\*a play about Tokugawa Mitsukuni, famous 17th century political leader and historian.

I WANTED TO BE THE GUY WHO GIVES HIM THE MEDICINE BOX!



Ah!

YOU MEAN SUKE-SAN, RIGHT?!



Maybe you would say okay now?

ACTUALLY, WE HAD ALREADY DECIDED THAT YOU WOULD PLAY PRINCE CHARMING, YUKI-KUN! WE'RE SAD YOU TURNED IT DOWN...

Thanks for your hard work.

I-I'M SORRY. I HAVE A LOT TO DO, WITH THE STUDENT COUNCIL AND ALL...

TO BE HONEST, I'M HAVING A HARD TIME DEALING WITH IT ALL.



カッ  
ラッ  
clack

THANK YOU FOR COMING! WE WERE JUST ABOUT TO TALLY THE VOTES.

I'M SORRY!

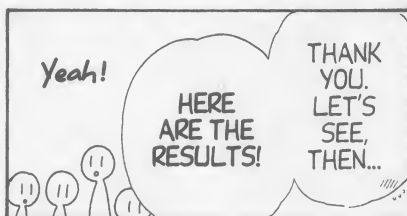
I'M LATE, AREN'T I?



I'LL WRITE IT.

All right!

WE'VE FINISHED TALLY-ING! I'LL WRITE IT ON THE BOARD.



Yeah!

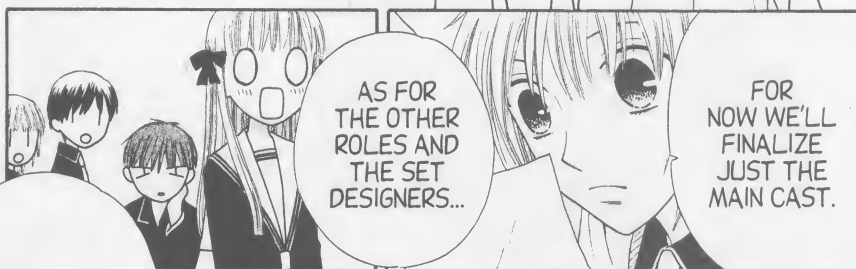
HERE ARE THE RESULTS!

THANK YOU. LET'S SEE, THEN...



I'M NOT FIT TO BE PRINCE CHARMING.

THAT'S NOT TRUE!!



AS FOR THE OTHER ROLES AND THE SET DESIGNERS...

FOR NOW WE'LL FINALIZE JUST THE MAIN CAST.

...I'D LIKE TO HAVE ANOTHER VOTE.

*Cinderella: Saki Hanajima*

*Prince Charming: Kyo Sohma*

*Stepmother: Minami Kinoshita*

*Stepsister: Tohru Honda*

*Fairy Godmother: Yuki Sohma*



NO TAKE-  
BACKS!!!

NOW  
WAIT  
JUST A  
MINUTE  
!!!

WE  
DON'T  
NEED  
PEOPLE  
LAUGH-  
ING AT  
THIS  
STORY!!

I know that  
much!!

WE'LL  
GET A  
LAUGH  
OUT OF  
IT.

YOU'LL  
LOOK  
GREAT IN  
A CROWN,  
PRINCE  
KYO.

WHAT'S  
WRONG  
WITH IT,  
PRINCE  
KYO?

Ah  
ha  
ha

DON'T  
TELL HIM.  
WHATEVER  
YOU DO,  
DON'T TELL  
HIM.

SHISHOU-  
SAN  
WILL BE  
THRILLED!

IT'S ...!  
WONDER-  
FUL THAT  
YOU'RE IN  
THE MAIN  
CAST! IT'S  
INCREDIBLE!

Kyo-  
kun

WHAT  
MAKES YOU  
THINK I CAN  
EVEN ACT  
TO BEGIN  
WITH!?!

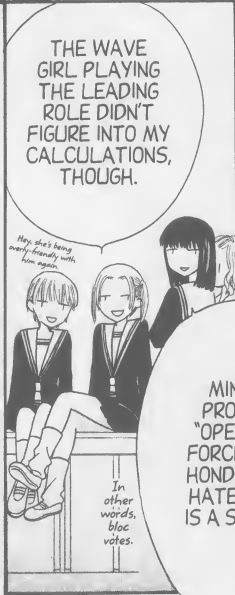
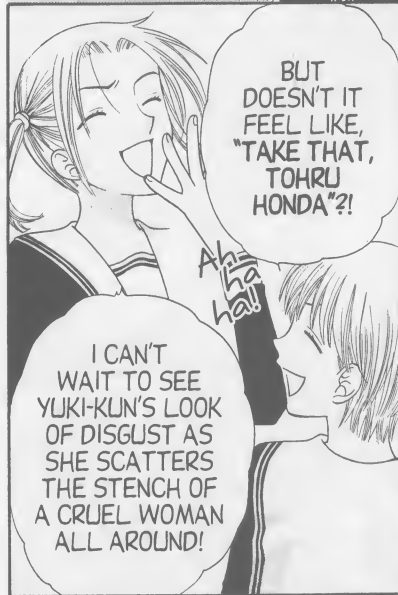
Hey!  
None  
of that  
"ha ha  
ha"  
crap!!



CALM DOWN  
AND THINK IT  
OVER. THIS  
CAST IS ALL  
WRONG!

IT'S  
ALREADY  
SCREWED UP  
JUST BY THE  
FACT THAT  
HANAJIMA  
IS THE MAIN  
CHARACTER!!







Well then...

WE'LL  
CALL IT A  
WRAP FOR  
TODAY!

AH...

THEN,  
CAN I GO  
BACK  
NOW?

I wasn't  
much help,  
though.

That's  
not true!  
Thanks for  
coming.

ARE YOU GOING  
BACK TO YOUR  
DUTIES IN  
THE STUDENT  
COUNCIL?



BUT  
AREN'T YOU  
PLAYING  
THE CRUEL  
STEMOTHER,  
MINAMI?

**CURSES  
COME  
HOME TO  
ROOST!!**



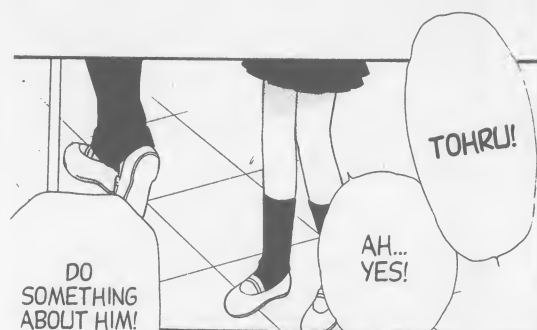
PLEASE...  
DO YOUR  
BEST!



YEAH.

UH, UM,  
DON'T  
PUSH  
YOURSELF  
TOO...

.....



DO  
SOMETHING  
ABOUT HIM!

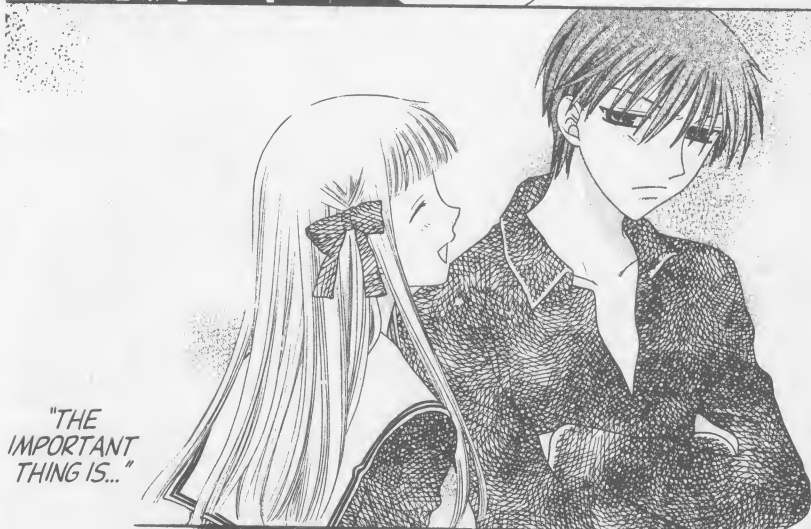
TOHRU!

AH...  
YES!



I KEEP  
TELLING  
HIM TO  
JUST  
GIVE IN!

SHUT UP!  
EVERYONE'S  
JUST MESS-  
ING AROUND!



"THE  
IMPORTANT  
THING IS..."



Student Council  
Room

KAKERU  
AND MACHI  
WENT TO  
GO BUY  
SOME  
THINGS.

Welcome  
baaack!

HUH...?

THIS  
IS AN  
UNUSUAL  
PAIRING.

THEY  
MUST NOT  
HAVE TOLD  
ANYONE THAT  
THEY'RE HALF-  
SIBLINGS.

I guess  
it's not  
something  
you'd want  
to broad-  
cast...

THOSE  
TWO, YOU  
KNOW, THEY  
SEEM KIND  
OF CLOSE.  
DON'CHA  
THINK, NAO-  
CHAN?

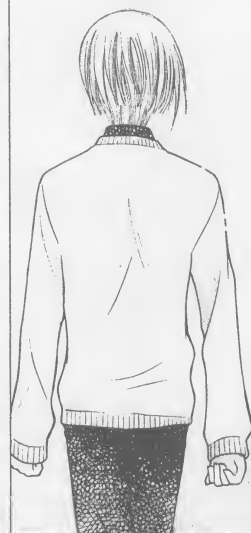
MORE  
IMPORTANTLY,  
I WOULD  
APPRECIATE  
IT IF YOU  
STOPPED  
CALLING ME  
THAT!

OH  
YEAH,  
PRESIDENT  
...

WHERE  
IS THE LIST  
OF THINGS  
WE'RE  
ORDERING?



"WILL  
YOU ALWAYS  
GO CRYING TO  
HER?"



"...OR..."



THE LOCK'S  
BEEN BROKEN  
SINCE YES-  
TERDAY!

10  
7  
slam

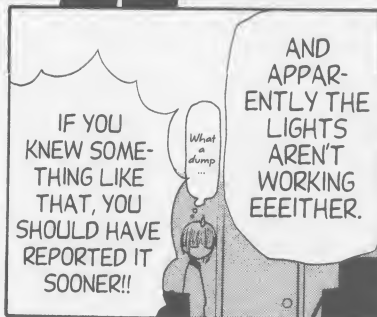


I WONDER  
IF I LEFT  
IT IN THE  
STORAGE  
ROOM NEXT  
DOOR.

AH!  
YUN-YUN,  
YOU'D BETTER  
NOT GO IN  
THERE!



NN?



IF YOU  
KNEW SOME-  
THING LIKE  
THAT, YOU  
SHOULD HAVE  
REPORTED IT  
SOONER!!

What  
a  
dump  
...

AND  
APPAR-  
ENTLY THE  
LIGHTS  
AREN'T  
WORKING  
EEEEITHER.



**NOOO!  
YUN-YUUN!  
KIMI TRIED  
TO TELL  
YOU!**

**YOU  
TOLD  
HIM TOO  
LATE!!**



...IS IT  
OKAY IF  
I KICK IT  
DOWN?

IT'S  
TRUE. IT  
WON'T  
OPEN.

WHA?!



Dash dash...

THANKS

IT'S  
ALREADY  
BROKEN,  
ANYWAY...



PLEASE  
STOP! I  
REALLY  
DON'T WANT  
ANYTHING  
ELSE TO BE  
DESTROYED!

He's right.

WE'LL  
GO GET  
SOMEONE.  
JUST HANG  
IN THERE,  
YUN-YUN!

HELP...  
I'M GOING  
TO GO GET  
HELP!



I  
WONDER

...IF  
THE LIGHTS  
REALLY ARE  
BROKEN?

It's dark...



Still...

THIS  
IS  
PATHETIC.

Sigh...

IF I  
REALLY  
WAS  
"PRINCELY"

...I WOULDN'T  
HAVE BEEN SO  
STUPID AS TO  
GET MYSELF  
LOCKED IN,  
THAT'S FOR  
SURE.

ツ  
clatter  
ツ  
clatter

SPLASH

WAH!

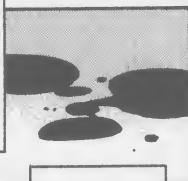


AH...

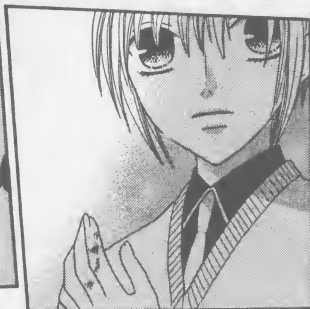
AAAGH!  
IT'S  
PAINT...

WHY IS  
THERE  
PAINT IN  
HERE?

It's like a  
storehouse  
for trash.



AND IT'S  
BLACK.





"A LOT."

"WATCHING  
YOU TRY TO  
KEEP UP THE  
FACADE OF  
OPTIMISM  
..."

"...IT  
HURTS."

"YOU'RE  
PATHETIC,  
AREN'T  
YOU..."

"...YUKI?"



"I  
KNOW  
..."

"...WHAT  
YOU'RE  
LOOK-  
ING  
FOR..."

"...IN  
HER..."

"...WHAT  
YOU WANT,  
WHAT YOU'RE  
SEARCHING  
FOR..."

"...IN TOHRU  
HONDA."

"I KNOW."

"I UNDER-  
STAND..."

**YOU'RE  
SO FRICKIN'  
ANNOYING!**

**SAVING  
LIVES  
...?**

**IN THIS  
SITUATION,  
SAVING LIVES  
COMES FIRST!  
UNDERSTAND,  
CHIBI-SUKE?!**

**OH, C'MON!  
IT'S NOT  
THAT  
SERIOUS!!**

*All right.*

**LET'S  
DO IT!**

**YOU JUST  
WANT TO  
BREAK THE  
DOOR DOWN,  
DON'T YOU?!**

**JUST A--!  
KURAGI, WHAT  
ARE YOU--?!**

**...HEY!**

**KER-SMASH**



clonk

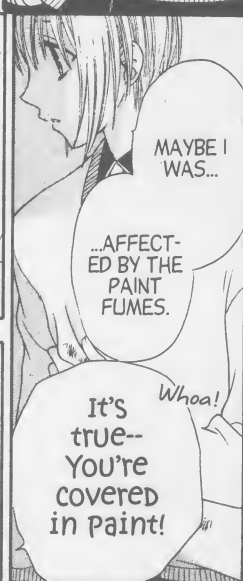
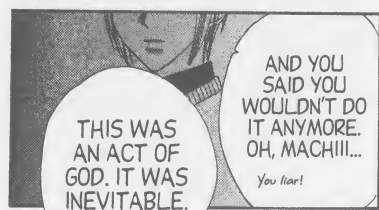
—  
...



ARE  
YOU ALL  
RIGHT?







WHAT?!

I'M  
GOING TO  
THROW  
UP...

*gag*

!!

.....

IF YOU  
DON'T  
HURRY,  
IT'LL  
NEVER  
COME  
OFF!

YUN-  
YUUN!

IT'S  
NOT  
JUST  
THAT.

THAT  
ROOM...

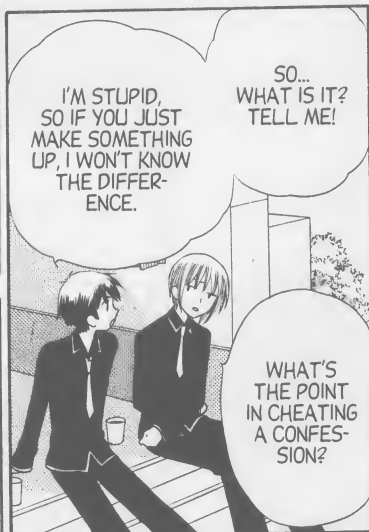
IF YOU'RE  
STUCK IN SUCH  
A SMALL, DARK  
SPACE WITH  
PAINT FUMES,  
OF COURSE  
YOU'D GET  
SICK.

*Makes  
sense.*

YOU  
SURE...

...YOU DON'T  
WANT TO  
GO TO THE  
NURSE?

IT'S FINE... IF  
I GET SOME  
FRESH AIR, I'LL  
BE OKAY...





I...

...HAVEN'T  
TOLD THIS  
TO ANYONE  
BEFORE.

I HAVEN'T  
EVEN TOLD  
THE PERSON  
INVOLVED.

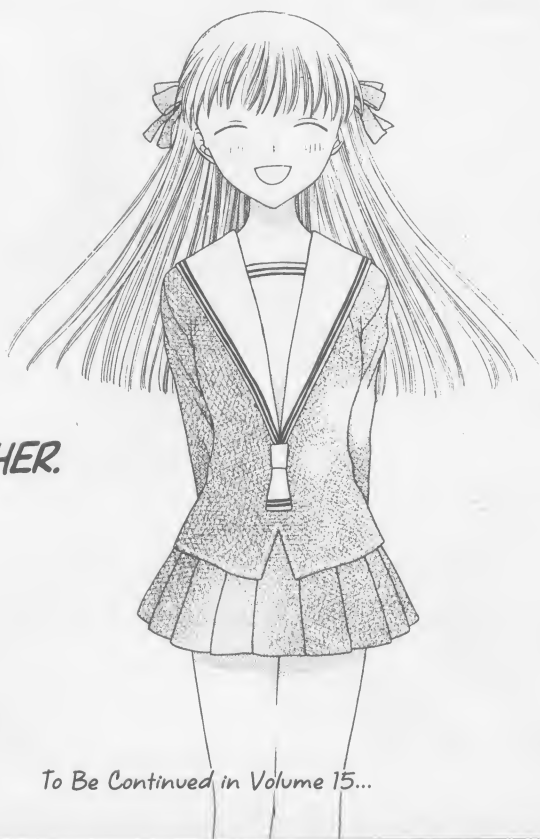


...PITIFUL  
AND  
PATHETIC.

IT'S  
SOMETHING...

I...

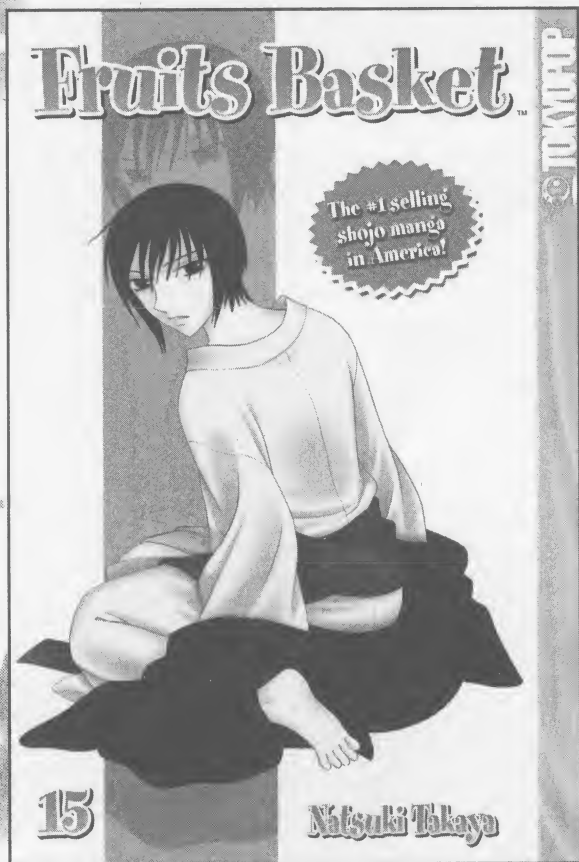
*...WAS LOOKING FOR  
A "MOTHER"...*



*...IN HER.*

*To Be Continued in Volume 15...*

Next time in...



### Yuki's Painful Past...

Yuki finally comes to grips with his troubled past, recalling the events that culminated in his mother selling him to Akito. Yuki also remembers being told by Akito that he was worthless and deserving of everyone's hate and scorn. When Yuki is snapped out of his rueful reverie, he confesses that he sees Tohru as a mother figure. But before Tohru can give Yuki the gentle nurturing that he craves, she must prepare for the "Cinderella" play. Will the show be a hit, or will Arisa's feelings for Kureno cause the curtain to come crashing down?

**Fruits Basket Volume 15**  
**Available December 2006**

# Year of the Rooster: A Wake-Up Call



By nature, Roosters are highly organized individuals that tend to overwork themselves and get very depressed if they should fail in even the smallest of areas. It is their constant thirst for knowledge and their lone devotion to their work that keeps them going. Nonetheless, Roosters are always interesting and extremely adventurous in everything that they do and fame tends to follow their every move.

While men born in this year are quite boastful, women tend to focus more on the job at hand and let their influence be its own reward. Women are also very forgiving and let previous ills be forgotten instead of holding a grudge. When it comes to their appearance, Roosters are perfectionists, and these birds love nothing more than going out on the town and dancing until dawn with friends and lovers.

## Celebrity Roosters:

Hayden Christensen  
Craig David  
Bryce Dallas Howard  
Christina Milian  
Britney Spears  
Kelly Rowland  
Foghorn Leghorn  
Cornelius Rooster (Corn Flakes)  
Rooster Cogburn

## Rooster

**Years\*:** 1945, 1957, 1969, 1981, 1993, 2005, 2017, 2029, 2041

**Positive Qualities:** Courageous, Hard-working, Alert, Perfectionist, Aggressive

**Grievances:** Arrogant, Selfish, Timid

**Suitable Jobs:** Business Owner, Publicist, Journalist, Soldier, Teacher

**Compatible With:** Snake, Ox, Dragon

**Must Avoid:** Rabbits

**Ruling Hours:** 5 PM to 7 PM

**Season:** Fall

**Ruling Month:** September

**Sign Direction:** West

**Fixed Element:** Fire

**Corresponding Western Sign:** Virgo

Considered a favorable sign, the Rooster is the only creature among the twelve animals of the Chinese Zodiac to bear wings, making it the perfect messenger to bridge the gap between Heaven and Earth. Its morning crow also serves to wake the farmer from his slumber and drive away any evil spirits that might be lingering in the fields.

For anyone fortunate enough to be born in the Year of the Rooster, they are endowed with its same virtues: knowledge, credibility, courage, military expertise and benevolence. Roosters are deep thinkers and highly talented, but very prideful by nature and quite arrogant. They always think they are right and even if proven wrong, they will persist in disputing any facts thrown at them. They are often seen as being selfish or even eccentric by others, but they tend to spend what they earn quite fast knowing that what is here today may be gone tomorrow.

\*Note: It is important to know what day Chinese New Year's was held on as that changes what Zodiac animal you are. Example: 1981 actually began on February 5 and anyone born before that date is actually a Monkey.



# Fans Basket

For Volume 14 of *Fruits Basket*, I need to give a very special shout-out to Stephanie Duchin. As a recent TOKYOPOP intern, Stephanie had the enviable task of opening piles and piles of Fans Basket letters and sketches. She'd run excitedly over to my desk and show me her favorite drawings from all of you die-hard readers. And just so you know, Stephanie happens to be a huge *Furuba* freak in her own right! In any case, she and I really bonded over all the wonderful things you all keep sending to me. Many thanks, Stephanie! I wish you were still here, because the fan mail is piling up again!

- Paul Morrissey, Editor

Komryn G.  
Age 13  
Boerne, TX

Seriously, how adorable is Kisa in this sketch?! I guess I haven't exactly made it a secret that she's one of my favorite characters, since I keep getting drawings of her! I also love how Momiji's shirt is way too big for him.

